THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY.

WE KNOW that the Famine Insurance Fund projected by Sir John Strachey was a myth, but Major Baring, an honest financier to the core, has given it a reality. In the Resolution of the Government of India on the subject occurs the following:

It was also pointed out that the amount to be provided as an insurance against famine was only so far dependant upon the receipts from the License Tax and the Public Works cesses that those receipts go to swell the general revenue and by so much facilitate the execution of the policy under discussion, that the policy of the Government was to apply annually a specified sum from the general revenue in order to provide an insurance against famine, that there was no special connection between the amount so provided and the amount received from the License Tax or the Public Works cesses, and that those taxes had never yielded so large a sum as £1,500,000 in any one year.

We do not think that this statement is quite consistent with the terms in which the programme of famine taxation was announced. In propounding his scheme Sir John Strachey in his financial statement of 1877 said:

"The measures which I have been explaining (*i.e.* the Public Works Cess Bill for Bengal and the License Tax Bill for the North Western Provinces) are steps in the direction which I have mentioned: by throwing upon each province the responsibility for meeting the charges necessary for providing the canals and Railways required to protect its own people against famine, we give practical recognition to the principle on which the Secretary of State has insisted upon and we obtain, to a certain extent, though far from completely, that safeguard for the Imperial revenues which he thought so necessary."

Mr. Reynolds, who was in charge of the Bengal Public Works Cess Bill of 1877, thus followed up Sir John Strachey in the Bengal Council:

"It had been laid down by the Government of India that it was necessary to introduce a system of provincial and local responsibility for the provision of the local relief in the event of a famine. It was true that Bengal was happily less liable to the contingency of famine than other parts of India; but the two great calamities which had befallen these provinces within the last twelve years must have shown that the contingency of famine was one which we could not afford altogether to overlook."

When the License Tax Bill was introduced Sir John Strachey said:

"Considering that precisely the same reasons were given by the Government and accepted by the legislature for imposing fresh taxation on the trading and on the agricultural classes, with the object of protecting the country against the financial consequences of famine, and that special stress was laid upon our desire to make the burden fall with approximate equality on each of these classes, it would be difficult, for the present Government at least, to accept any proposition for treating them differently now. In fact it would be hardly possible to maintain the cesses on the land, if the tax on trades were abolished. It might be more possible to defend the abolition of the cesses on the land and the maintenance of the tax on trades."

The Preamble to the Bengal License Tax Act of 1878 runs as follows:

"Whereas in order to provide means for defraying the public expenditure from time to time incurred and to be incurred for the relief and prevention of famine in British India, it is necessary to afford a permanent increase of the revenue, and it is therefore expedient that persons carrying on trades, dealings and industries in the territories administered by the Government of Bengal should take out license and pay for the same."

The above extracts shew what intimate connection there was between the License Tax and the Public Works Cess, and Famine Insurance. But we are glad to find that Major Baring has shifted the position. By making provision for the Famine Insurance Fund from the general revenues of the State he has cleared the way for Government to deal with the subject of remission of taxation. If the surplus of revenue should admit of remission of taxation, we see no reason why the License Tax and the Public Works Cess, on which the Famine Insurance Fund is no longer dependant, should not go.

A REPORT REACHES the *Civil and Military Gazette* from Kabul that Abdul Kudus Khan, Governor of Herat, has refused the Amir's orders to give up the Governorship and proceed to Kandahar, of which place the Amir has appointed him Governor. Kudus says Isa Khan appointed him Governor of Herat, and that he will not move without his orders. The Amir on receiving this reply, ordered Abdul Ghias Khan, Kudus' brother, now in Kabul, to be beheaded, and he was accordingly executed. Herat is in open revolt. A force of all three arms has been ordered to proceed from Kabul to suppress the rebellion. Rumours are current that Ayoub Khan is making renewed attempts on Kandahar. All these rumours have not, however, been confirmed by the Press Commissioner.

THE AMALGAMATION of the British and Indian Medical Departments, it is said, will be accomplished in April next.

THE QUESTION of the hygenic effects of opium engaged the attention of the Bombay Medical and Physical Society at its last monthly meeting. Dr. Moore read a paper on the habitual use of opium in moderation, and a discussion followed: after which the question was put, "Is the habitual use of opium in moderation injurious?" A unanimous negative was the result.

INDIAN CHESS PLAYERS are invited to send representatives to Vienna to take part in an International Chess Tournament, which is to commence on the 10th May next.

MR. MUNCHERJEE DADABHOY DADYSETT, who was some time ago a subordinate judge at Baroda, and who went to England to prosecute his legal studies, obtained last year a prize of Rs.250 from the Council of Legal Education for proficiency in his studies. Advices from England received by the last mail state that the Council have awarded Mr. Muncherjee another prize of the same value this year.

AT THE OFFICIAL DINNER, which was given to Sir George Couper by the members of the Oudh Commission, he took leave of his brethren in very touching terms. He said:

My future home in England will be on a far humbler scale indeed than that in which it has been your wont to see me. But humble though it may be, should any one of you ever chance to be in its vicinity, I assure you my wife and I will take it sorely amiss if you fail to come and see us, and revive, for a while, reminiscences of the well-loved past. For she, too, will always cherish a warm personal regard for the officers of the Oudh Commission. She has never forgotten, and never will forget, the affectionate enthusiasm with which you welcomed her back after her seven years' absence, nine years ago. Whatever the future may have in store for us—wherever we may go—whatever we may be—your memory will remain enshrined in the hearts of us both, and, in her name and my own, I bid you a cordial, affectionate, and grateful farewell.

Well said.

TUESDAY, 14TH FEBRUARY.

A REPORT has been received in Kandahar that the Amir of Bokhara is dead, and that the Government of the Khanate has been taken over by the Russian Government.

FROM A STATEMENT lately published, showing the incomes of the London charities for the year 1880-81, it appears that their united revenue amounted to no less than £4,121,546. Of this huge sum £1,374,844 was devoted to Home and Foreign Missions.

HAJI GHOLAM HASSAN has been appointed by the Punjab Government as its Indian representative on the Education Commission. The *Lahore Tribune* makes the following remarks on this appointment:

We feel bound to say that we cannot fully congratulate the local Government on this selection. We are not well acquainted with the antecedents of the Haji, nor do we know in which school he was trained, if in any. He is no doubt the son of a moneyed man and a successful shawl-merchant at Umritsar, and we believe he went to Europe a few years back though whether for getting patterns of shawls from France or for completing his education we are not sure. We must say that the educated community of the Punjab do not feel themselves honoured in the selection which has been made nor do they seem inclined to acknowledge the person selected as their representative in educational matters.

THERE WAS AN UNINVITED GUEST at the recent rent audit dinner at Hawarden who took his place at the head of the table, drank much wine, and cheered Mr. Gladstone greatly when he was speaking. He handed a letter to the Premier, which began, "My dear Satan," offering the right hon. gentleman brimstone or other assistance from below, if he wished it. We hope the meeting gave him a hot reception.

AT A RECENT MEETING of the East Indian Association, Mr. J. Watherston read a very interesting paper on the subject of "India and the Silver Trade." The lecturer explained at length the fiscal and other hindrances which beset the British manufacturers of silver plate, and which virtually prohibit importation of Indian and other foreign silver wares into the United Kingdom. It must, he said, often have occurred to colonists—Anglo-Indians more especially—that it is strange that the beautiful workmanship of native productions in silver, to be found not only in India, but in Japan, should not be appreciated in England. It is but little known that this supposed want of appreciation is wholly caused by prevailing legislation—legislation which has imposed unjust and impolitic hindrances, subversive of the principles of modern fiscal policy and obstructive to art progress, and forming an insurmountable obstacle to technical education in its application to silversmiths' work. Mr. Watherston urged that the duties upon gold and silver plate, together producing only £50,000 per annum to the Exchequer, should be abolished with as little delay as possible, in conformity with the recommendations of the Select Committee on Hall-marking in 1879, and that hall-marking of gold and silver plate should be a voluntary institution, as now prevails in the case of gold and silver jewellery; foreign plate, like foreign jewellery being admitted free from any legislative interference. This would lead to a revival of one of the most ancient and beautiful of British industries, while at the same time, it will develope a trade with India which should become of much importance. We say *ditto*.

WEDNESDAY, 15TH FEBRUARY.

WE HAVE MUCH pleasure in making room for the following:

The other day, in the Rue Royale Brussels, as a cabman was waiting on the stand, seated on his box, a sudden gust of wind carried off his hat sent it dancing along the street while he, unable to leave his horse, was gesticulating frantically to the passers-by, who, insensible to his appeals, was enjoying the scene. Just then the Queen drove past in her pony-chaise, and, seeing the man's distress, stopped, and ordered a groom to get down and run after the hat. Her Majesty waited till it was caught and restored to the owner, who, now more embarrassed than ever, did not know how to express his gratitude. She then bowed her acknowledgments of the awkward attempts he made to convey his sense of her Majesty's gracious condescension, touched her horses, and drove off, having given a lesson to the little crowd of rather crestfallen bystanders which it is to be hoped was not lost upon them.

The Queen was really queenly.

THE ADVOCATES of the legitimation of marriage with a deceased wife's sister in the United Kingdom have lost a powerful ally by the death of Mr. Sykes Thornton. It appears now, from an investigation of his books, that he spent little short of a million of money during his life towards the furtherance of that end. This fact shews to what an expense some Englishmen go for the sake of an idea.

THE SURPRISING growth of the Indian tea trade, during the last eleven years, is well illustrated by the following figures recorded at the English Custom House:

	Imports.	Deliveries.
1870 ...	13.148,168	13.472,800
1871 ...	15,351,672	13,560,120
1872 ...	16,942,030	16,272,060
1873 ...	18,424.077	18 392,061
1874 ...	17,377,976	17,756,640
1875 ...	25,605,132	23,273,994
1876 ...	29 383,788	26.733,820
1877 ...	31,883,310	28.011,600
1878 ...	36,007,140	36,766,460
1879 ...	38,483,684	35,243,194
1880 ...	44,010,564	43,500,000
1881 ...	45,765,000	48,500,000

If the duty were taken off, the trade would make still greater strides.

RUSSIA IS EVIDENTLY bent upon making herself a strong naval Power in the Pacific. A large torpedo factory, for the manufacture of all kinds of torpedoes, at Vladivostock, it is reported, is nearly complete, and a purchase of £6,000 worth of machinery abroad has been sanctioned.

SIR RUTHERFORD ALCOCK read a very interesting paper on the opium trade at a meeting lately held in the rooms of the Society of Arts, London. We give the following abstract of it:

The popular assumption that the trade had been forced upon the Chinese, was altogether baseless. The whole history of our relations with China, up to the outbreak of the war in 1840 was one continuous refutation of such

an assumption, and in the Treaty afterwards dictated as the price of peace not a word was to be found referring to the subject. The same remark applied to the Supplementary Treaty, signed a year later, in October, 1843, containing all the trade regulations. It was quite true that the legislation of opium, was more than once urged by the British negotiator with a view to prevent all the discredit and disorder attaching to a contraband trade, and affecting the character and interests of both nations, but the Chinese chiefly, and no pressure was brought to bear on the Chinese Commissioners to effect it. And it was mutually agreed, and publicly proclaimed—"That on the subject of opium the British and Chinese Governments shall adopt their own rules and regulations respectively with respect to their own subjects." From 1843 to 1850, the opium trade went on largely increasing but unmolested. In 1856, a rupture was again brought on in October of that year, by a Chinese posse of officials and soldiers in a war-boat, suddenly boarding the British lorcha Arrow, and the second war that ensued equally afforded another occasion to impose the recognition of the opium trade. The Treaty was signed at Tientsing, however, without any reference to opium. The poppy, there was reason to believe, was indigenous in China. It was certain that no foreign agency first introduced opium to the knowledge of the Chinese. It was beyond all doubt that the use of opium has been general amongst Asiatics, as a stimulant and narcotic, from a time unknown. At present, out of the eighteen provinces of China proper, nine, or one-half lying to the west, comprising an area of 971,282 square miles, and with an estimated population of 179,913,968, are largely under native poppy culture, and wholly supply their own population. There is a superfluity of evidence, from independent witnesses, in every sense trustworthy, that no Indian opium competes, or has entered into consumption, in all this vast region. So much for Li Hung Chang's solemn assurance, in July last, that his "Government will take effective measures to enforce the laws against the cultivation of the poppy in China, and otherwise check the use of opium." Turning to the question of the morality of its consumption, Sir Rutherford contended that opium should be tested by some comparative standard and its merits and demerits tried by results and experience in comparison with the rest of the large family of stimulants and narcotics, and the advantage of such a comparison was so entirely on the side of opium and its smokers, that he did not wonder those who agitate for the suppression of the trade should object vehemently to any such comparison being instituted. Opium smokers might impoverish and ruin their families, as well as their own health: but no one ever heard of an opium smoker going home from his debauch and brutally assaulting his wife and kicking her to death, or murdering his children. He had lived during the last twelve years in this great city of beer and spirit drinking people, after more than twenty passed in the midst of dense populations of opium smokers, and he could conscientiously aver that he saw more degradation and brutality in a single day, in the streets of London—more of violence and misery, with danger to all who come in contact with it—than in twenty years of life in China, and would rather live, so far as personal safety and freedom from outraged feelings of humanity, in a heathen population of opium smokers than in a Christian community, where drunkenness from alcoholic drinks is the prevailing vice among the mass of the working classes.

We thank Sir Rutherford Alcock for the trouble he is taking to enlighten the British public on the subject.

THURSDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY.

WE HAVE received the following letter from a Roman Catholic correspondent:

While advocating the Disestablishment of Chaplains in India, your sense of justice has always induced you to admit that the British Troops have a claim on Government for the ministration, of their religion, and that therefore military chaplains are a necessity for British Troops.

I beg through your columns to point out the gross injustice with which Government treat their Catholic Chaplains, while their Protestant Chaplains are so liberally dealt with. I will not fill your columns with a detailed account of this unjust treatment of Catholic Chaplains. One recent fact is all to which I beg to invite your attention to ask for your comments, in the name of justice and to request the favour of your advocacy.

The Very Revd. F. Augustine, O. C. Catholic Chaplain to British Troops for 33 years, consecutively, and now enfeebled in body and mind and worn out with ill-health, was lately compelled to retire from the Chaplaincy of Dugshai. Had he been a Protestant Chaplain he would have drawn good pay for 17 years and then been entitled to a pension of 12 a day. But being only a Catholic Chaplain, (though discharging identical duty with the other Chaplains) he has for all these years received a miserable pay; and now after 33 years faithful service, he is entitled to *no pension*! He was declared entitled to no leave or furlough; he spent half of a long life in the service of Government on a miserable salary shared by him with the orphan, the widow, and the poor; and now he retires, a feeble broken down beggar with no provision for his old age. He has gone to Sirdhana near Meerut, where from the charity of the Native Christian colony and of his Bishop, he will receive shelter and the bare necessaries of life.

Sir, will you not raise your voice against this crying injustice, which treat in so dissimilar a manner, chaplains discharging similar duties? Will you not advocate the cause of a useful class of Government subjects, who under the present unjust rules are miserably paid, are given no leave or furlough, and whose death is often hastened by their being continued at work, when they have fairly earned a right to rest on a pension? Will you not take up a case of which the injustice is paralleled only by the patience with which such wrongs have been so long borne?

Yours truly,
A CATHOLIC.

The case mentioned is really very hard; the Government ought to take it into its generous consideration.

A CORRESPONDENT referring to the Rules published by the Calcutta High Court under Section 6 of the Legal Practitioners' Act thus writes to us:

These rules unjustly affect the position of some of the existing practising pleaders and they have given rise to doubts as to their status and privileges. They require discussion and in this view I invite public opinion. Under the old law two classes of practitioners were recognized, the 1st and 2nd class pleaders. The first class practitioners were privileged to practise in all those Courts subordinate to the High Court, the practice of the 2nd Class was confined to the Munsiffs' Courts and Revenue Courts. The Legal practitioners' Act virtually abolishes the distinction and section 2 of the Act recognizes the appointment and enrolment of all practitioners made before the Act came into operation. But the High Court rules recognize only one class of pleaders, that is those who have obtained the B. L. and L. L. degrees of the University of Calcutta. Their application to future applicants is reasonable enough, but they tell very hard upon the prospects of the existing first and second grade pleaders passed at the Committee Examination. Exception, however, has been made in favor of practitioners passed under the rules of 1874. The third clause of the 3rd rule provides that "any person who has obtained a certificate from the examiners under the rules of 1874, shall be entitled to apply within one year from the date of the publication of these rules but not later, to apply to be admitted as a pleader." Does not this provision in the rules give the 2nd grade pleaders, admitted after the promulgation of the Rules of 1874, the privileges of first grade pleaders or of pleaders contemplated by the Legal Practitioners' Act? Why should it not apply equally to second grade pleaders admitted before the rules of 1874? If it be urged that the rules of 1874 made it indispensable that the candidates for a second grade pleadership shall be passed entrance candidates, it is equally true that many amongst the second grade pleaders of the pre-1874 rules period are also passed entrance candidates and holders of junior scholarship certificates. It may be here noted that those passed before the rules of 1874 were required to secure higher marks than their junior collaborateurs. There is another ground of complaint. The new rules debar the practising second grade pleaders to be enrolled as Muktears though they concede the privilege to future second grade passed candidates. These rules again concede to the Muktears the privilege of presenting applications under Act 27 of 1860 or for foreclosure and the like and of pleading before the District Judges and Sub-Judges on special permission and examining witnesses before them. The second grade pleaders do not enjoy these privileges. The rules under comment therefore call for revision.

A MOORSHEDABAD CORRESPONDENT furnishes us with an account of the proceedings connected with the distribution of prizes to the students of the H. E School at Islampore. We do not usually notice school exhibitions. Our correspondent bears the following testimony to the interest evinced by Mr. Mosley in education:

"Mr. Mosley, who has from time to time figured in your paper as one of the bad Magistrates, has many good redeeming features in his character. We are sorry that his excellent parts have never attracted your notice. It is true that he is strict in the proper sense of the word. He is nevertheless a true friend of education. His dealings with the people in general are fair."

REFERRING to the recent Resolution of the Government of India in the Financial Department a correspondent from one of the Northern Districts writes:

Under the Financial Department order No. 844T., dated 10th November 1879 the pay of the Treasury Accountant here has been raised from a fixed salary of Rs. 80 to a graded salary of Rs. 60 to 80. The Treasurer who hitherto received Rs. 65 per month had been allowed something like commission at the rate of Rs. 7 per lakh remitted to Calcutta. By a subsequent order while the Accountant's pay remains untouched the Treasurer's increased remuneration has been stopped. Somebody has put into the head of the authorities that the Treasurers are dissatisfied with their salaries and therefore they have to be revised. The impression is most ungrounded, though dissatisfaction if it does not exist, will be fostered by the withholding of the allowance proposed. Under the last India Government Resolution the pay of the subordinate treasurers in the interior will be increased, but the district treasurers who have made security deposits and have numerous responsible pecuniary trusts reposed in them are overlooked.

HINDU EDITORS may be partial to the Hindu speech at the last Trades' Dinner, but this is what the Parsi editor of the *Indian Spectator* says of it:

We see from the last number of the *Hindoo Patriot* that Mr. Riach of the *Calcutta Statesman*, and the Honourable Kristodas Pal, were speakers also at the annual Trade's Association dinner. Both responded to the toast of the Press. Leaving alone extraordinary views of the former as to the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act we may say that the speech of the latter was not only eloquent, but full of that sound sense, patriotic zeal and love of British liberty for which his writings have been well known. We regret space does not permit our transcribing the whole of that thoughtful speech to these columns. Our vernacular contemporaries ought to translate the address for the edification of their readers. His gratitude to the Premier and the Viceroy is in the best style, says Mr. Pal:—The change of Ministry has led to that bright change in the treatment of the national Press which all India hails with one acclaim of praise and gratitude. That apostle of freedom —People's William—he, too, "daring pilot," was one of the first to raise his eloquent and powerful voice in Parliament when the text of the Gagging Act reached England, he has now the proud satisfaction of seeing his own word redeemed, the character of his Party and Government vindicated and the good name of the British nation retrieved." Of Lord Ripon Mr. Pal speaks thus: "His lordship has justly decided that there is no mid way between freedom and fetter, that grace has no gradation, that confidence begets confidence, and that as the motives of the British Indian Government are pure and just, it does not fear to walk in the broad daylight of Public criticism, come from what source it may. It is the unconditional liberation of the Vernacular Press which enhances the value of the boon beyond measure." These are sentiments of which the Editor of the *Hindoo Patriot* may always be proud.

We commend the above to the *Pioneer*.

FRIDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY.

HIS HIGHNESS the Maharaja of Jeypore made the following donations to Calcutta Institutions: Building Fund of the Hospital for women and children Rs. 500, Zoological Gardens Rs. 500, District Charitable Society Rs. 100, India Reform Society Rs. 50, Babu Tarini Churn Meozoomdar's Cholera Hospital, Rs. 50. His Highness has given two scholarships of 15 Rs. each tenable for two years to the Presidency College and the Sanskrit College.

THE MUNICIPAL prosecutions for the breach of the Municipal law against some of the denizens of Chowringhi were disposed of in this wise: Mr. Justice Wilson, Mr. Peacock, Mr. Crooke, and Mr. Owen were fined Rs. 5 each, and Archbishop Goethals Rs. 2. Mr. J. W. Furrell was the presiding Magistrate.

A RECENT despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies announces that the Church of England is to be disestablished in the Straits Settlements on the same terms as those agreed upon for carrying out this object in Ceylon. All present chaplains will have their vested interests provided for. The total population of the Straits Settlements is stated to be over 300,000, with a Christian population of only 9,000. The Straits formerly formed a part of the British Indian empire. It is time that British India should be exempted from the inequitable charge.

IT IS SAID that the Government of India has asked the Secretary of State to send out to this country a Rhea Machine, by Messrs. Martin, Dennis and Albert Angell, for the preparation of the fibre of jute, for the use of the Government experimental farms, as soon as it is available. Our well-known countryman RajaShamasunkar Roy of Teota tried the experiment, which we are sorry to learn has proved unsuccessful from want of a proper machine. We would advise our countrymen who have the means to take to this enterprise.

THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT is said to be planning the formation of colonies in Siberia and Russian Manchuria, and several thousand families selected from the hardy races of White Russia are about to be sent to these districts as an experiment.

THE AGRA COLLEGE is doomed. The Governor General in Council remarks, that "in the event of any strong local desire being shown for the maintenance of the College in its present footing, the Government of India would not object to make over the Institution, together with a portion of the endowment funds, to a body of local trustees or to a local committee, provided that such trustees or committee undertake to maintain it on an efficient footing, and subject, as regards Government aid, to the ordinary terms and conditions of the local grant-in-aid rules." We fear this condition cannot be realized in Agra.

RAJ NARAIN PUNDIT, a well-known citizen of Lucknow, has received the title of "Raeesi Reyasat-i-Shunkerpur," in recognition of services from time to time rendered by him to Government and his own people. The Pundit belongs to a family of distinction in Cashmere, and has founded a school for the diffusion of Sanskrit Literature and Science.

A PUBLIC MEETING was held at Bankipore on the 12th instant on the subject of local self-government. Babu Bisheswar Sing took the lead in this movement.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY held its anniversary on Saturday last. A competitive exhibition of the different gymnastic schools was held on the grounds of Chiarini's Circus on Sunday following. On the same day a mela was held at Cossipore.

SATURDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY.

THE AMIR has sent reassuring letters to the leading men in Kandahar. Herat, it is reported, remains peaceful and contented.—*Press Commissioner's Office.*

CONSUL GENERAL, Baghdad, reports quarantine, Busrah, withdrawn.—*Ditto.*

THE LAST reports received from Herat contain no confirmation of the recent rumours of disturbances there and of the disaffection of Kuddus Khan. —*Ditto.*

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of the *Indian Daily News* writes that wild excitement prevailed in the Printing House Square, on Monday, the 23rd January, and ere nightfall not a copy of the *Times* was to be bought anywhere for love or money. In the provinces the demand for the "leading journal" on Monday was so great that a sovereign was paid for a single copy. All this it is said was due to a misprint in the report of Sir William Harcourt's speech attributing to him an obscene passage, which must have been put in by some malicious compositor. As no one would confess, thirty-two men have been dismissed.

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WE HAVE received an abstract of the sixth annual report of the Monghyr Charitable Institution. The receipts of the Institution forthe year of report, 1881, were Rs. 503-12-3 and the disbursements Rs. 405 8-9. The objects of charity were the blind, leper, lame, old and all sufferers from diseases and disabled from work.

A CORRESPONDENT at Rohimabad on the Oudh and Rohil und Railway states that letters and papers received on the 3rd day at the nearest Post Office from Calcutta are not delivered earlier there than the 7th or 8th day, and this because there is one rural messenger there to serve many villages and places. Some enquiry was ma e in consequence of the complaint having been once ventilated in these columns sometime ago, but nothing has been done to redress it. We again invite the attention of the postal authorities to the subject.

A CHITTAGONG CORRESPONDENT expresses his regret and surprise that the Government of Bengal has not deigned to notice the conduct of the local Magistrate in reference to the Sankirtun case of that place, though it was noticed by most of the Calcutta papers. On the other hand, Mr. Currie, the offending Magistrate, had been granted two years furlough. We would remind our correspondent that the Government is not bound to take official notice of all that appears in newspapers. The aggrieved should make a formal representation.

THERE WERE 265 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 11th February, of which 27 were from cholera, none from small-pox, 77 from fevers, 38 from bowel complaints, 3 from wounds and acoidents, 19 from phthisis and asthma, 9 from convulsions, 27 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Nine children were still-born, 48 died between the ages of 15 days and under and above 15 days and under one year. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 15. The average of daily mortality was 37·8.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, February 13.—Advices from Ireland state that numerous arrests have been made in connexion with illegal drilling.

14.—The Secretary of State for India, in reply to a question, said the Viceroy did not correspond with the Pope concerning Roman Catholic Prelates in india. They were subjected to the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Goa. The British Government did not interfere in the matter. England and France have sent a collective Note to the Powers, amicably explaining their policy in Egypt. Mr. Lloyd, Magistrate of Bodyke, County Clare, has been shot at, but escaped unhurt. The policeman accompanying him was mortally wounded.

14.—The House of Commons has voted the address in reply to the speech from the throne after a long debate by 87 to 22 votes. The Anglo-French collective note to the Powers respecting their policy in Egypt proposes an agreement among them on the basis of the *statuo quo*, Egypt to respect international obligations. An epidemic disease, suspected to be the plague has appeared at Souj boulak.

15.—Sir C. Dilke replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that Government had not proposed that an English representative should attend the Russo-Persian delimitation of the frontier. The British Minister at Teheran, he said, had telegraphed that the nearest point on the Russian Frontier was 150 miles distant from Serakhs. Lieutenant General Charles Foster has been appointed Colonel of the 21st Hussars.

15—Commander Selby, of H. M. S. *Falcon*, has been attacked and dangerously wounded at Artaki, in Anatolia province while out shooting. The Porte, in reply to a representation of the British Ambassador on the subject, has ordered the perpirators of the outrage to be arrested, and despatched an ironclad thither. Later intelligence from Soujboulak states that the Plague has disappeared.

15.—Sir C. Dilke, replying to questions in the House of Commons, denied the reported revolt at Herat.

16.—Commander Grenfell of the gunboat *Cockatrice* who accompanied and assisted Commander Selby after the latter was wounded, was also illtreated. The causes are not political but owing to some misunderstanding. Sir Stafford Northcote speaking at a Conservative Banquet at Tooting, while admitting that Parliamentary rules required alteration, did not approve of the proposals made by Government, which amounted to an infringement of the rights of the minority and freedom of debate. The Troopship *Crocodile* has passed the Canal, homeward bound.

16—Mr. Allsopp, the Conservative candidate, has been elected for Taunton by a large majority, in the room of the deceased member. Mr. Gladstone on Monday next will move the new Parliamentary rules. Commander Selby's assailants have been arrested.

17,—In the House of Commons last night Mr. Cowan called attention to the Viceroy of India's interference in the late Yorkshire election, which, he said, was a breach of privilege. The Speaker ruled that it was too late to raise the question of privilege. Mr. Cowan then gave notice of a resolution condemning it. The Debate respecting the report on the address continues. Mr. Gladstone denied that his recent speech was an encouragement to Home Rule agitation, and said he was not prepared to give Ireland self-government greater than England and Scotland possessed. A terrible colliery explosion, causing the death of 70 persons, has taken place at Tremden in Durham.

WE HEAR that the Convocation of the Calcutta University will be held on Saturday the 11th proximo. His Excellency the Viceroy as Chancellor will preside.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals: 1. Report on the Administration of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts for 1880-81. 2. Meteorological Record for 1881. 3. Army Circulars (special) for Jan. 1882. 4. Mr. Martin Wood's Letter on Indian Public Works. 5. The Stationery Trades Journal Vol. III. No. 23. 6. The Sixteenth Report of the Charitable Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Calcutta, for February 1882. 7. Monthly Price List of Printing Paper, Card, &c., for February 1882. 8. *Nagasram Abhinoy*—a Farce in Bengali, by Kenral Chundra Dhenkial 9. An abstract of Sreemutty Unnopurna Chatterjee's Speech in Bengali delivered before the Family Samaj of Bogra. 10. *Byutpadini Bibriti*—or Commentary and Notes in the Sanskrit Course for F. A. Examination of the University of Calcutta—Rughubungsa. 11. Adarini—a Bengali monthly, Vol. II. No. 3.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.
(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)
(SESSION 1882.)

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S.J., C.I.E., on Thursday, the 23rd Inst., at 7 P. M.
Subject: Reflection of Light.

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Friday, the 24th Inst., at 7 P. M.
Subject: Expansion of Bodies by Heat. Thermometry.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S., F.I.C., on Saturday, the 25th Inst., at 3 P. M.
Subject: Oxygen and Ozone.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY, 20, 1882.

CODIFICATION.

THE two most important codified Bills of the series projected by Mr. Whitley Stokes were passed on Thursday last. We expected an animated debate on the occasion, but there was no storm, it was all calm and serene, though there were some good speeches, which were capped by a really statesman-like address from His Excellency the Viceroy on the advantages of codification. First the Transfer of Property Bill was passed. Before the motion was put to the vote the Hon'ble Durgachurn Law raised a very important constitutional question. He said:

Section 1 in the first place exempts from the operation of the law the territories administered by the Governments of Bombay, Punjab, and British Burmah, but leaves it to the descretion of those local Governments to extend it to the whole or any part of their territories as they may deem fit. This in my humble opinion is highly objectionable on principle. As I understand the consitution of this Government, all laws ought to originate with the legislature, but this Section practically leaves the task of legislation in this matter to the discretion of the executive Governments of the provinces named. The executive Government, as the Hon'ble Council is well aware, is differently situated from the legislative council, and it is not bound by any such standing orders as require this council to allow the public a fair opportunity to discuss a measure before it is passed into law. None has shewn a more laudable anxiety than your Excellency to give the public the fullest opportunity for the discussion of legislative measures, and I believe the provisions of Section 1, as I have explained, cannot be in consonance with your Excellency's views. I do not wish to move an amendment on the subject, but leave the matter to the consideration of the Hon'ble Council.

He was followed up by the Hon'ble Mr. Inglis, who said:

He had intended giving a silent vote, but he felt called upon to indorse the views expressed by the Hon'ble Doorga Churn Law as to the inexpediency of the principle embodied in the first section of the Bill which permits its extension by mere executive order of the Local Government to territories to which it does not at present extend. He thought such extension would only be permitted in the regular way by an Act of this Council.

His Excellency the Viceroy remarked:

Before this Bill passes I should like to say a few words with respect to what fell from my Hon'ble friends Durga Churn Law, and Mr. Inglis, regarding the mode in which it is proposed, in accordance with precedent to extend this Bill to other parts of the country than those to which it has been made immediately applicable. If any notice of amendment on that point had been placed on the paper, it would have most certainly received the careful attention of the Government, but as no such notice has been given, the point cannot now be practically considered. With regard, however, to the general question, I do not wish to lay down any hard and fast rule or to pledge the Government as to the course which it may take in regard to future Bills. That course must be regulated by the nature of each particular Bill and the circumstances of the time at which it may be proposed to the Legislative Council.

It is to be regretted that no formal amendment was moved on the subject, but we thank the Hon'ble Durgachurn Law for raising the question, which is one of vital importance. His weighty words are sure to have effect. The principle for which he contended was immediately after recognized by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in his amendments to the Easements Bill. That Bill provided that it should in the first instance apply to Madras, Central Provinces and Coorg, and may be extended to the other provinces at the discretion of their respective local Governments. The object of His Honor's amendments was to withdraw this discretion. His Honor said that "they simply related to the question which have been raised by the Hon'ble Durgachurn Law as to the extension of the scope of the Bill by an Executive Board instead of by the Legislative Council. The practical result of these amendments was that the Bill would only extend to the provinces which had accepted the provisions of it, and that the other provinces which had rejected them should remain outside the scope of the Bill until such time as it should be extended to them by a regular legislative enactment." This is as it should be. Sir Ashley Eden is entitled to public gratitude for the vindication of the important constitutional principle under notice. There is, however, an air of ludicrousness in the Bill as it has passed. The Bill applies to Coorg, which has a population of 170,000 persons, to Madras, which was not over-anxious for it, and to the Central Provinces, the most backward territory in all India. But this most important measure is withheld from the advanced provinces because the local Governments thereof object to it. All's well that ends well. If Mr. Stokes is satisfied with this sort of emasculated legislation, let him enjoy that satisfaction.

We have said above that the Viceroy made a statesman-like speech on codification; we wish we had time and space to do justice to it. We are at one with His Excellency on the general question. Codification is a necessary accessory of civilized or scientific administration, but what we object to is innovation in the name of codification. If Mr. Stokes had confined himself within the domain of settled law, we would have had no reason to quarrel with him. But it was because he sought to change, where change was not necessary, and where change would be a puzzle, we considered it our duty to oppose this innovating codification. His Excellency the Viceroy did not dwell upon this point. What His Excellency said in condemnation of unlimited judicial discretion advocated as a hypothesis by Sir Henry Maine has our heartiest approval. His Excellency said:

I do not, I confess, agree myself with the opinion here expressed by Sir H. Maine, which is more a political than a legal opinion, when he says that he is not at all sure that a wise Indian Legislature would not go in for universal discretion. That is I confess, not my view of what is desirable in India in its present condition. I entirely admit that there have been men in past times, able rulers no doubt and who have been able to administer to the people a law extremely acceptable to them, because they possessed those rare qualities of sympathy with the natives, and that intimate knowledge of their feelings, traditions and habits which enabled them to discharge duties of so much difficulty in a manner acceptable to those whom they governed. But such men are always rare. You cannot supply the ranks of our judicial service in any number with men possessing these rare qualifications. I have the very highest possible opinion of the ability of the Indian Civil Service, but of course it is out of the question to find many men possessing those peculiar qualifications which have marked the career of some of the most distinguished members of that service in times past; and even if we could find them, I feel bound to say that it would in my judgement still be a distinct advantage to the country that we should pass out of that patriarchial stage so far as concerns the more advanced and civilized parts of the country. Doubtless there are many tribes and races in a very backward—some of them almost in a savage—condition, who must be governed on principles different from those which are applicable to the great mass of the people of India, but speaking of the country in general I say that it is a good thing you should pass away from that condition of affairs in which instead of having settled law, the decision of judicial case was left to the arbitrary unfettered judgment of the particular individuals who tried them. I do not use the term arbitrary in a disparaging sense—but I hold that it is a clear benefit to the people of this country that they should advance from the stage of arbitrary discretion to one of written and settled law. Sir Henry Maine in the book from which I have just now been quoting says that the fact that natives of India are becoming more acquainted with their rights as individuals is a source of serious difficulty to the Government of this country. There may, of course, be difficulties in such a state of advance from one stage of civilization to another. You cannot pass from one stage of civilization to another in any country, or at any time, without peculiar difficulties; but whatever may be the nature of those difficulties, I say distinctly that it is well for the people themselves that they should acquire an increased knowledge of their rights, that they should be more and more ready to enforce those rights, and should be able to appeal to the law and to distinct statutes. Under any circumstances, I should think it a great misfortune if we were to fall back upon that patriarchial system which has been so largely abandoned in most parts of India from time to time.

Noble sentiments these. In the dark vistas of arbitrary, self-willed, and capricious ideas of rule, which surround *us in this country, these*

liberal and enlightened thoughts of the Viceroy are most cheering—they afford a gleam, which we hope will not pass away on his departure. It is not often that a Viceroy realizes his responsibilities as Lord Ripon does. His Lordship is the representative of the Queen, and therefore the guardian angel of the two hundred millions committed to his beneficent care. He is the representative of the Liberal party in India, and therefore an advocate of progress and reform. He is the representative of a noble house, which has always been identified with the cause of liberty and progress. Above all he has his own reputation—a reputation associated with the highest aims and efforts in the path of humanity, liberty, progress and reform. And we must do his Lordship the justice to say that the more we see of him, the more we are convinced that he not only nobly sustains the representative functions which have devolved upon him, but is destined to leave a new page in the history of India conspicuously bright and honorable.

THE WHITE ACT.

THE reader may feel startled by the title of this article, but we deliberately mean what we say. The enemies of the White Act have hitherto carried the day by denouncing it as the Black Act, but if the reader will impartially examine the merits of the question he will, we feel confident, be satisfied that what is called the Black Act, justly deserves the appellation of White Act. The question of the subjection of European British subjects to the jurisdiction of mofussil criminal courts is not new. It is well nigh half a century old, and probably it would have been set at rest a quarter of a century before, if the public mind had not been terribly shaken at that time by the Sepoy revolt. When the East India Company first acquired dominion in this country the Europeans trading or domiciled in India were not subject, even in civil suits, to courts presided over by natives. But that high-minded statesman Lord William Bentinck, struck by the anomaly, notwithstanding the strenuous opposition offered by Indigo planters and other Europeans, made a strong effort to abolish the invidious distinction, and was ultimately successful. And what has been the result? Does the White man now complain because the Black man tries his civil suits? On the contrary is it not the fact that the White man ten times prefers the Black man to a brother White man in the trial of civil suits? In fact at the present day few white men recollect that there was ever such a barbarous time when the children of the soil, who were deemed good judges for the trial of native suits, were not deemed equally good judges for the trial of European suits. And if they are competent to try civil suits in which Europeans may be interested, are they not equally competent to try criminal cases in which the same class might be interested? We have said above that the question of the White Act is not new. So far back as 1833 when the removal of the charter of the East India Company was discussed in Parliament some of the most distinguished men of the day, to wit, the Marquis of Lansdowne and the Earl of Ripon, the Right Hon. Charles Grant and Sir John Cam Hobhouse, Thomas Babington Macaulay and Sir Edward Ryan repudiated the doctrine that it was the privilege of Englishmen to carry their laws with them wherever they went, and they were unanimously and strongly of opinion that "there was not one law for one man and another for the other." And the great author of the Indian Penal Code gave it as his deliberate opinion in the House of Commons that "unless we mean to have the natives exposed to the tyranny and insolence of every profligate adventurer who may visit the East, we must place the European under the same power which legislates for the Hindoo. No man loves political freedom more than I. But a privilege enjoyed by a few individuals in the midst of a vast population ought not to be called freedom. It is tyranny." Parliament was not content with the expression of individual opinion on the subject but appointed a Royal Commission to report on the Indian laws. That Commission was composed of the following distinguished jurisconsults: Sir John Romilly, the Master of the Rolls of England, Sir John Jervis, Chief Justice of the Common Law of England, Sir Edward Ryan, late Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Calcutta and Privy Councillor, Mr. Charles Hay Cameron, a member of the original Indian Law Commission, Mr. Macleod, also of the Indian Law Commission, Mr. Hawkins, a distinguished Judge of the late Sudder Court, Mr. Ellis of the Madras Civil Service, and Mr. Robert Lowe, now Lord Sherbrook. And the Commission composed of such distinguished men strongly recommended that the inequality in the eye of the law in the trial of Indian and European British subjects of Her Majesty in British India should be done away with. But the voice of the independent Britons in India was too powerful, and the course of equal legislation was arrested in its progress. The subject, however, came up before the Legislative Council of India in 1857, when the Judges of the Supreme Court were the foremost in advocating equality of law. Sir Arthur Buller asked the question "ought the present privilege of British subjects to be tried before the Supreme Court alone, any longer to be maintained?" And what was his answer? He said: "I have no hesitation in saying that in my opinion the answer ought to be in the negative. I cannot for a moment resist the strong conclusive, practical arguments for the immediate abolition of the privilege." Sir James Colville, the then Chief Justice, remarked: "The time for removing the exclusive privilege enjoyed by British subjects with respect to the trial of offences committed by them, and for making them amenable to the criminal jurisdiction of the Mofussil Courts had now arrived. It was quite impossible to go to the length of those who treated their present immunities as an inalienable and indefensible heritage and right. Offences in the interior went untried and unpunished through inconveniences, difficulties and expense of bringing all the parties toCalcutta. He could name three or four cases that had occurred during the very last year." But as we have said above then came the hurricane of the Sepoy Mutiny, and the cry of legislative reform was hushed in the storm of the military revolt. Five and twenty years have now passed away, and we venture to ask whether the time has not arrived for the repeal of the old exemption law. The question was partially reopened in 1872 when the present Criminal Procedure Code was passed. It was then proposed to do justice to a very deserving class of public officers, we mean the native civilians. With a view to refresh the memory of the reader we reproduce the debate which took place in 1872 on the subject:

The Hon'ble Mr. Ellis:—

In making the invidious distinction which was now proposed, if we excluded any Justice of the Peace from the exercise of certain powers, we were really casting a stigma on the whole educated Native population of India. He might also urge that there would be considerable inconvenience in having such a distinction. But he preferred to put it on the broad ground, that if you have Native Covenanted Civil servants, you ought not to bar them from exercising the powers of a Civil Servant, among which powers is the jurisdiction of a Justice of the Peace over European British subjects. By Act II of 1869, certain Natives might be appointed Justice of the Peace, and on what ground, he would ask, was it proposed to restrict their powers as Justice of the Peace?

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, (Sir George Campbell):

The Council should adhere to the decision which had been come to by the passing of Act II of 1869, namely, that a Justice of the Peace must be either a European British subject or a Covenanted Civil servant. To reopen that question and to limit the powers that might be exercised by any Justices who were Covenanted Civil servants, appeared to His Honor to be somewhat invidious, and would be, as it were setting themselves against the policy hitherto pursued. Viewing the matter in that light, he should be inclined to vote for the motion before the Council.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, (Lord Napier) said that the Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service having been to Europe, having become acquainted with European feelings, ideas and customs, and having qualified themselves to take their places with the European Members of the Civil Service, His Excellency would frankly accept them as real members of the Covenanted Civil Service, and allow them to exercise all the functions which the European members exercised.

His Excellency the President said that his vote would be given in conformity with the opinion which had been expressed by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. His Excellency thought that the restriction would embody a stigma on the Native Community in general. It was equivalent to stating that under no circumstances, as far as the administration of the law was concerned, could the Native attain to that degree of impartiality and courage which would justify the Government in reposing in his hands the power of trying European British subjects. He thought that by the restriction we in effect said to the European—"You are not to be tried in the Mofussil by the Agency by which you are tried in the High Courts and in the Courts of the Magistrates in the Presidency towns, with the general approval and sanction of the European Native Communities." It was saying in effect that the Natives who had attained to the position of a Sessions Judge, was not competent to try a European British subject, but he might try him when he became a Judge of the High Court and sat beside a European Judge. His Excellency could not but help thinking that there was practically no greater disparity in permitting these Native Civil servants to try a European British subject, than in permitting Native Justices in the Presidency towns to try him. There appeared to His Excellency to be no such broad distinction whatever between the condition of society and of public opinion in this respect between the Presidency towns and the Mofussil. There were now a great number of public spirited men and a great deal of public spirit all over the Province. Communications by rail, the dissemination of newspaper both in English and the Vernacular, and a great variety of other circumstances had destroyed that distinction which formerly existed between the Presidency towns and the Mofussil. His Excellency did not himself consider that there was the slightest possibility that in the rare case of a Civil and Sessions Judge trying a European British subject in the Mofussil there would be an abuse of justice.

The Hon'ble Mr. Ellis:—

But he desired to add his testimony to the efficiency with which Native Magistrates had performed their duties in the Presidency towns, in the administration of Justice to both Europeans and Natives; and he had no hesitation in saying that they had performed their duties with as much credit and efficiency as the European Magistrates. And if they had done that, he saw no reason why Natives in the position of Covenanted Civil servants or Sessions Judges should not be equally competent to administer justice to the Europeans in the Mofussil. His Hon'ble friend Mr. Stephen had remarked that in this matter, we were not to consult the feelings of the Judge, but of those who were to be subjected to the jurisdiction, in answer to that Mr. Ellis would say that he saw no reason why that which did not hurt the feelings of Europeans in the Presidency towns, should hurt them in the Mofussil.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor:

After consideration, and having listened to the arguments and given due weight to the weighty considerations which His Excellency the President had placed before the Council, His Honor was prepared to vote in favour of the very limited change which was proposed by the amendment.

The Hon'ble Sir Richard Temple:

He thought that the inference was undeniable that if the Natives were eligible to all the great offices of the administration, it seemed improper and unreasonable to say that they should not sit as Judges over Europeans in the Mofussil for offences of the trivial nature over which it was proposed to give Justices of the Peace cognizance. After what had fallen from Hon'ble members, he felt that he ought not to give a silent vote on this subject. He would vote in favour of the amendment of his Hon'ble Colleague Mr. Ellis.

The question being put the Council divided.—

AYES.	NOES.
His Excellency the President.	Hon'ble Mr. Strachey.
His Honor the Lt.-Governor.	Hon'ble Mr. Stephen.
His Excy. the Commander-in-Chief.	Major Genl. the Hon'ble H. W. Norman.
Hon'ble Sir R. Temple.	Hon'ble Mr. Inglis.
Hon'ble Mr. Ellis.	Hon'ble Mr. Robinson.
	" " Chapman.
	" " Stewart.

The amendment was negatived.

It would be seen from the above that although the Viceroy was in favour of the change proposed, the majority of the Council rejected the proposal.

The circumstances of the country have materially changed since the question was first raised in 1833. The East India Company have passed away and Her Gracious Majesty the Queen has assumed the direct government of India. The Sudder and the Supreme Courts have been amalgamated into the High Court,

which is presided over by both Barrister and Civilian Judges. The Criminal Sessions held in Calcutta are presided over by both Barrister and Civilian Judges. The Mofussil Criminal Courts have been greatly improved by the appointment of Magistrates both European and Native trained in law. The bar in the Mofussil has also vastly improved; there is not a district in which there is not a sufficient number of law graduates practising in the courts. Public opinion in the Mofussil has also become much stronger than what it was half a century ago. The old antagonism of race has, we believe, also greatly abated. Considering the changes which have taken place in the circumstances of the country we ask whether the time has not arrived for the abolition of the invidious distinction of race, colour, country and creed in the administration of law and justice. We submit this question because the amended Criminal Procedure Bill is about to be passed. We appeal to His Excellency the Viceroy on the subject, because we know and feel that His lordship is a fearless champion of equal rights and equal justice. We are the more emboldened in making this appeal because in 1833 His Lordship's eminent father, in discussing the renewal of the East India Company's Charter, was one of the foremost in advocating equal laws and equal justice in the administration of British India. The Earl of Ripon then said: "It was a necessary consequence of the admission of Europeans, to place them on the same footing and under the same laws." May we venture to express a hope that the illustrious son of the illustrious father will not allow the amended Criminal Procedure Bill pass without wiping out the blot on the Indian Statute Book.

THE FAMINE INSURANCE FUND.

THE public have not hitherto been able to understand the mysteries of the Famine Insurance Fund. The late Finance Minister's explanation on the subject only tended to illustrate the truth of the saying that language has been given to man to conceal his thoughts. Sir John Strachey in imposing the new taxes in the beginning of 1878 expressly called them Famine Taxes, and declared that their proceeds were intended to be spent on famine relief and insurance. This declaration had a great effect in inducing the public to acquiesce in the additional burdens imposed upon them. It was generally felt that Government was fulfilling one of its most sacred obligations in making an adequate provision for famine relief. But for this feeling a very strong opposition would have been offered to the introduction of the new taxes, more particularly the 2 per cent. extra cess on land in Northern India, which, as the *Pioneer* says rightly, "is levied in breach of settlement obligation." Sir John Strachey, with characteristic cleverness, stated the very next year that the Famine Insurance Fund had been the subject of popular misconception, that, properly speaking, there was no fund but merely a provision in the accounts. Holding this view, the late Finance Minister went to the length of putting down to the ignorance of his critics their objections to his daring misappropriation of the proceeds of the Famine Insurance Fund. The present Government of India has taken its stand on the last declaration of Sir John Strachey. The Financial Statement for the current year "pointed out that the amount to be provided as an insurance against famine was only so far dependent upon the receipts from the License Tax and the Public Works cesses that those receipts go to swell the general revenue and by so much facilitate the execution of the policy under discussion, that the policy of the Government was to apply annually a specified sum from the general revenue in order to provide an insurance against famine that there was no special connection between the amount so provided and the amount received from the License Tax or the Public Works Cesses and that those taxes had never yielded so large a sum as £1,500,000 in any one year." The only difference between the course followed by Sir John Strachey and that which has been adopted by his successor is that whereas the late Finance Minister considered the sum of £1,500,000 raised for the express purpose of being spent on famine relief as a surplus receipt for subsequent appropriation, Major Baring treats it "as a fixed portion of the normal expenditure of each year." A famine fund no more exists now than it did in the days of Lord Lytton and Sir John Strachey.

In pursuance of the policy adopted by Lord Ripon and Major Baring the head "Famine Relief and Insurance" on the expenditure side of the Budget will be divided into the following three sub-heads:—(1) Relief; (2) Protective Works; (3) Reduction of Debt. The first sub-head, we are told, will comprise all actual relief; while the other two will represent Famine Insurance under the two forms of protective works and reduction of debt. In ordinary seasons no expenditure would be incurred for famine relief. In such years the sum of £1,500,000 provided for Famine Insurance would be applied to the construction of protective public works and the reduction of debt. "The relief of actual famine," it is explained, "will be a first charge upon the whole million and a half annually provided as expenditure, protective works will be the next charge, but only to the extent of three-quarters of a million, or such portion of that sum (if any) as may remain after all necessary relief of actual famine has been afforded to reduction of debt, the remaining three-quarters of a million will be assigned, except so far as all or any portion of it may be needed for relief of actual famine. In the event of any portion of the allotment for Protective Public Works not being actually expended in the course of the year, it will be carriod forward for expenditure in the year following, in addition to any fresh allotment appertaining to the latter." When no actual relief is required the sum of £1,500,000 will be applied in equal moities to the construction of protective public works and the reduction of debt. It is almost certain that the protective works on which three-quarters of a million will be expended annually will be such as cannot be expected to prove remunerative. It would be enough if most of these works pay their working expenses. In some cases, it is even doubtful whether this result will be attained. Indeed, when Sir John Strachey conceived the idea of the Famine Insurance Fund, it was looked upon as a dodge for raising money for the construction of railways and canals, which could not be expected to pay. Lord Salisbury had put a decided check upon the public works mania of the Strachey Brothers by laying down that no work should be constructed with borrowed money which was not sure to prove reproductive. It was, therefore, necessary to devise some means for constructing unremunerative public works out of the general revenues of the Empire; and the late clever Finance Minister conceived the brilliant idea of the Famine Insurance Fund. There can be little doubt that the three-quarters of a million sterling which will be applied annually to the construction of so-called protective works will not yield any return worth the name, or at any rate, will not yield an adequate return. They are works which private enterprise cannot be expected to undertake. They will be any thing but profitable investments. We have no doubt that Major Baring will bear these circumstances in mind in sanctioning so-called protective works.

There then remains the other three-quarters of a million sterling, which is to be applied to the reduction of debt. This amount may be regarded as appropriated to the actual relief of famine. If no famine breaks out for ten years, the public debt will have been reduced by seven millions and-a-half, which sum will be at the disposal of Government for purposes of relief when a famine afflicts the country. But the question is, will this provision be sufficient for famine relief? Sir John Strachey, after careful and elaborate calculations, came to the conclusion that famine relief costs £1,500,000 a year on the average. The correctness of this estimate cannot be disputed. The late Finance Minister was, to our thinking, rather under than over the mark when he thought that a million and-a-half sterling per annum would suffice for famine relief. We cannot persuade ourselves to believe that future famines will be mismanaged in the shameful way in which, acting under the instructions of Sir John Strachey, Sir Richard Temple dealt with the late terrible famine in Southern India, and Sir George Couper ignored the severe famine in the North-Western Provinces. If these two famines had been properly managed, the average cost of famine relief struck by the late Finance Minister would have been much larger. The Home Government has repeatedly declared that in times of famine no deaths from starvation which the Government can possibly prevent shall take place. If this policy which has met with the approval of all right-minded persons is to be fully carried out, the cost of famine relief will certainly exceed £1,500,000 a year. Are we to believe that future famines are to be managed in such a way that the cost of relief may not go beyond the amount by which the public debt has been reduced by the application of a moiety of the provision for Famine Insurance? We cannot believe that this is what Major Baring means. As one, who had no small shared in shaping the large-hearted and truly benevolent famine policy of 1873-74, he will not we feel confident give countenance to the parsimonious and almost heartless policy of Sir John Strachey. We sincerely hope that he will clear up this important point in his next Budget-statement.

BRITISH BURMA IN 1880-81.

LORD RIPON, in one of his Rangoon speeches held up Mr. Bernard's report on the administration of British Burma for 1880-81 as a model of what such reports should be. This was high praise, indeed; but after going through the report we are satisfied that the praise was well deserved. British Burma has rapidly increased in civilization and prosperity during the past ten years. Its progress dates from 1871 when Sir (then Mr.) Ashley Eden was appointed Chief Commissioner. Lord Mayo used to say that the best appointment he made during his Viceroyalty was that of the present Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to the Chief Commissionership of British Burma. Sir Ashley Eden has left his mark on the province. The improvements he set on foot are being carried on by his successors, and what is still more satisfactory is, that there is at present no sign of this rate of progress being arrested.

One of the most important operations of the year under report was, of course, the census, of which the writer of the report before us gives an interesting account. The total population of the province was returned at 3,736,771, being an increase of upwards of 36 per cent. over the figures of 1872. Some part of the increase in population is due to immigration from India and Upper Burma; but the main causes of the increase are the fecundity and healthiness of the population. More than 68 per cent. of the people live by agriculture, and there is an immense deal of petty trading all over the country. Wages are high and food is plentiful. The wages of unskilled labour range from five shillings a week in the slack season to twenty-five shillings a week at the busy season of the rice-ports. The material condition of the people is thus described:—"The great majority of the people are comfortably off; but there are few rich people. Burmans as a rule do not save money. They are open-handed and lavish in their expenditure. They give away a good deal in charity to their monasteries and other pious institutions. They spend freely on dress, on jewels, and on entertainments. The pooays or theatrical displays, which are given at the harvest-time and on other auspicious occasions in every Burman village, cost a good deal of money, but are much enjoyed by this pleasure-loving people; outside the four sea-port towns there are few Burmans who could raise or whom the Banks would trust with £5,000. On the other hand, only a very small proportion of the people are in debt. * * * * Money-lenders of the ordinary Indian type are almost unknown in Burman villages." Freedom from debt is one of the chief characteristics of the people in British Burma. There is no room in that province for village Shylocks, such as exist in other parts of the Empire, the more particularly in the Deccan. The soil is productive, the rainfall generally regular and the land system elastic. Where these conditions exist, there is no necessity for borrowing money.

There are no hereditary chiefs, nobles, or great landholders in British Burma. The people are as a rule comfortably housed, and though there is no enthusiasm on their part for British rule, they are content with it. In 1879 a cadastral survey of all the occupied lands was begun; and on the results of that survey a new assessment of the land revenue for a term of 15 years is being framed. The average area of each holding is 36 acres. The fiscal result of the new assessments is that lands which used to pay a land revenue of Rs. 4,04,587 will now pay land revenue of Rs. 4,95,932 a year. The greater part of this increase, we are told, is due to the more exact measurements furnished by the cadastral survey. The new assessments fall at an average rate of Rs. 2-4 per acre of cultivated land, the highest revenue rate being Rs. 3 an acre and the lowest As. 12 per acre. The average gross value of the rice-yield is Rs. 21 per acre and the estimated cost of producing the crop, inclusive of all charges, is Rs. 16. The land revenue thus amounts to less than one-half of net produce. It is not the only tax which falls on the cultivators in British Burma. Over and above the land revenue the cultivators have to pay a capitation-tax of Rs. 5 to Rs. 3 per head on each adult male, and also a local cess of 10 per cent. on the land revenue. The export duty on rice also falls more or less on the cultivators. Mr. Bernard makes the following remarks on the rice duty: "Every bag of rice exported from Burma pays an export duty of three annas a maund, about six pence per cent. As the export price of rice is regulated mainly by the demand in Europe or in other parts of Asia, and not by the cost of production in Burma, the export duty comes mainly out of the profits of the producer. The rice duty last year yielded about 43 lakhs of rupees, which, spread over 3,300,000 acres of rice-land comes to Re. 1-5 per acre. If we add together the land revenue, the local cess, the capitation tax on agricultural families and the rice-duty, the average land tax comes to about Rs. 3-14 on each acre of cultivated land. If this net amount seems high compared to the incidence of the land-tax in India, it must be remembered that the Burman peasants have no landlords to satisfy, they pay no appreciable salt tax and they enjoy the advantage of excellent markets always ready to receive their surplus produce." Though the land tax is heavy, it does not press on the payers, for the simple reason that the system of collection is not harsh and rigid as it is in India. According to ancient custom, the land revenue in Burma represents an aliquot part of the gross produce. It follows that the revenue should not be collected in case the crop failed and that in case of partial failure only part of the revenue would be paid. Mr. Bernard states that though this is the rule, it is not fully carried out, that the introduction into British Burma of the scientific system under which a fixed revenue demand has to be paid in good and bad years alike, was recommended. But we are glad to see that it has been decided to return to the old practice, whereby cultivators in Burma may obtain partial remission of revenue in case of any serious partial failure of crop, and may obtain full remission in case of total failure. If the Government of India had adopted the proposal to collect a fixed revenue demand from Burman cultivators in good and bad seasons alike, their freedom from debt would have disappeared in a short time, and their prosperity would have been greatly affected.

Some advance has been made during the past year towards the more extended employment of Natives of Burma in higher offices. A Burmese gentleman has been appointed to be a probationer for the Native Civil Service, and for the first time since the annexation certain selected Burmese officers have been invested with the full powers of a Magistrate. "So far," remarks Mr. Bernard, "the experiment of employing Burmese officers in more responsible posts has not produced any harm to the public service, while it has operated as an encouragement to Burmese officials." It is necessary to improve the status and salary of Native Magistrates and Judges in Burma. At present these officers are very inadequately paid. Out of 121 Native Magistrates, 41 are receiving salaries of Rs. 100 a month or under, while only 22 are receiving more than Rs. 200 a month. Proposals were submitted to the Supreme Government in February last for increasing the pay of this class of officers; but no orders have yet been received. Well does Mr. Bernard observe, "until this matter is settled, we can hardly expect that the Native Magistracy will everywhere cordially respond to the additional demands made on their zeal and industry, nor can we hope that the standard of probity, of education, of judicial fitness, and of administrative capacity will materially improve among the ranks of Native Magistrates and Judges." Another measure is about to be adopted for improving the status of the Native officers. European officers expect the Burmese to show them respect after the ancient custom of the country. This custom is known as *shiks*, according to which the subordinate kneels before the superior with bowed head in attitude of worship. Mr. Bernard rightly says that the observance of the *shiks* towards the European is repugnant to men who have learnt English. Mr. Rivers Thompson, while Chief Commissioner, remarked "the sooner the practice is replaced by a less obsequious and degrading form of recognition the better." We hope Mr. Bernard, with his usual vigour and good sense, will solve the *shiks* question satisfactorily. The amount of civil litigation in the province, we are glad to notice, has not increased in proportion to the population. A proposal for constituting a High Court of three Judges for British Burma is before the Government of India. The total cost of the administration of civil and criminal justice during the year was Rs. 8,33,173, against which is to be credited Rs. 5,04,527. The total revenues of British Burma have nearly doubled within the last ten years. The external trade of the province continues to rise. The total trade has increased 117 per cent. during the past ten years. There are seven municipalities in Burma, but these are shams, as the Chief Commissioner has power to cancel any of the acts of a municipal committee. This power naturally prevents members of municipal committees from speaking their minds. There is only one school in British Burma—the Rangoon High School, which teaches up to the matriculation standard, but there is an excellent system of indigenous primary education in the province. An Agricultural Department has been sanctioned for Burma, though Mr. Bernard doubts whether English agriculturists have much to teach the Burmese regarding the cultivation of rice, *the* great staple of the province.

THE CONSERVANCY OF CALCUTTA.

WE are exceedingly glad to observe that a thorough enquiry is about to be made into the conservancy of Calcutta. The Chairman of the Corporation has taken the bull by the horn and induced the Town Council to appoint a special Committee to enquire into the sanitary condition of the town. He has also recorded a minute on the subject, and so have the Health-Officer and the Engineer. The minutes of these officers are before the public, and they show what is being now done for the proper conservancy of the town and what remains to be done. The Chairman says, "I must by no means be taken as admitting that there has been any especial neglect of conservancy on the part of the Municipal staff during the past few weeks, so that the town is in an abnormally insanitary condition. Typhoid fever is not exceptionally prevalent. The mortality from fever, exclusive of typhoid during the first five weeks of the year 1882, was less than in 1881—355 as against 375 and from what is classed as typhoid 49 as against 69. During the same period the total mortality also declined from 1,408 to 1,283, and the health of the town is decidedly improving." Again: "The conservancy establishment is not weaker than it was last year, and while some new precautions have been taken in the course of the year, no former precautions have been neglected." It should not be supposed that the Chairman is criticising his own work. He has been in office not quite a year. The administrative organization is not his own; he is simply carrying out or superintending what has been in existence, but he is not dissatisfied with the existing arrangements, for he does not call for a change; what he wanted has been granted by the Commissioners, we mean more carts and more coolies, and the desired increase has been provided for in the Budget for the current year. So, if anything, the conservancy establishment has been considerably strengthened this year. And yet we must admit there are loud complaints against smells in the town, particularly in the southern division. The smells are not denied, but the question is to what are they traceable? Are they due to the new sewers, or to insufficient scraping of the roads, or to the state of the compounds of private houses? Different critics attribute the evil to different causes, but there can be no doubt whatever that the three causes we have named are more or less in existence. The new sewerage system may be said to be still on its trial, but much as we were opposed to it in the first instance we must confess that it has not been attended, generally speaking, with those evils which had been predicted by some of the most eminent sanitary authorities in this country. These authorities, as the reader is doubtless aware, are divided in opinion; some think that an underground system of drainage, in a tropical city like Calcutta, is a mistake, while others hold that it has answered so well in European towns that there was no reason why it should not do equally well in Indian towns, provided the necessary precautions were taken. The new drainage system has been in operation for more than twenty years and it is being rapidly extended throughout the town. In justice to the authors of the scheme, we must say, that the rate of mortality has not increased since the introduction of the system. But there are defects in it which ought certainly to be remedied. The Engineer and the Health-Officer have in their minutes referred to above pointed out some defects and the remedies for the same and their suggestions will doubtless be attended to. It cannot, however, be denied that the drainage system is effecting a revolution in the sanitary condition of the town. Dr. Macleod, in his Health report for the last year, says: "The progress of road making and drain laying is gradually effecting changes for the better in these bustees. Every road constructed through a village implies facilities for ventilation, surface conservancy, and drainage; and every pipe drain laid in its vicinity means the mechanical removal of material which would otherwise pollute its soil, contaminate its water, or poison its atmosphere. The good work is steadily progressing, and in time will revolutionise the hygienic condition of these localities." This good work is also recognised by the Army Sanitary Commission in England. In reviewing the last administration report of the Calcutta Corporation they state that "the Commissioners have shown an enlightened appreciation of the measures required for improving the public health and convenience of the capital of India; very much requires to be done yet before the localizing causes of epidemics are eradicated, but important sanitary works have been or are being carried out for the general improvement of the town, and a beginning has been made in dealing with the bustees or Native Villages, which in the capital of India, as in the open country, are the centres from which epidemic diseases of all kinds take their origin." The Secretary of State in acknowledging the same report is pleased to say, "I am glad to learn that sanitary work continues to make satisfactory progress." Such is the testimony borne by the highest authorities to the great sanitary work going on in the Town. It is, therefore, simply ridiculous when the *Englishman*, evidently inspired by some disappointed ex-Municipal officer, seeks to fasten his verdict upon the public that the present Corporation has been weighed in the balance and found wanting. It is quite true that the Commissioners would not put up with the impertinence of any officer who, while himself doing little but pocketing his own pay, would throw the Municipality in a sea of expenditure for the sake of his own crudities and oddities; but they have never yet neglected any work which is justly deemed to be necessary for the real good of the town. It is quite true that the Commissioners have been economical, but they do

not believe that mere expenditure of money without let or hindrance means efficiency. It is quite true the Commissioners have not proved clay figures in the hands of the executive, but we have the repeated testimony of the late Mr. Souttar and Mr. Harrison that they have heartily co-operated with the executive in the discharge of their onerous and responsible duties. Let a full and impartial enquiry be made, and we make bold to say that what we have asserted will be proved to the letter.

We now come to the question of reviving the appointment of the Health Officer as a sole officer of the Municipality. This is not a new question. It was over and over discussed by the late Justices, who decided after considerable experience that to pay the Health-Officer Rs. 1,600 per month, on condition that he should use his eyes and nose for twenty-four hours to discover nuisances in the town, was simply to throw away money. Other eyes, far less costly, were equally useful for that purpose. It is well-known that Dr. Tonnerre had come in only by a fluke; Mr. Schalch, than whom there was not a more efficient municipal Governor of Calcutta, did not want a whole but a part officer, and he originally proposed a Consulting Health-Officer on Rs. 1,000 a month. But canvasing has been the besetting evil of the Calcutta Corporation from the beginning, and Dr. Tonnerre by a smart canvassing got in as the Health-Officer of the Town on Rs. 1600 a month. And once lodged in nobody could dislodge him, till he of his own accord gave up his berth in consideration of the splendid bonus of Rs. 35,000. The reasons which led the Justices to propose the change are thus set forth by Sir Stuart Hogg in his Administration Report for 1874:

"The appointment of Health Officer for Calcutta dates only from the creation of the present Corporation, *viz.*, 1863, and at the same time an establishment of an adequate strength was placed under his control, and remained so for over five years, when the Justices decided to try the experiment of placing the conservancy establishment under the Engineer. However, the plan was not supported by the then Engineer, who rightly held that the works then in progress demanded all his attention; so after a few months, the Health Officer was again requested to undertake the control of the Conservancy Department, and he has been in uninterrupted charge till the close of the year under Report.

For some years, however, the impression has been gaining strength that considerable economy, without loss in efficiency, would be obtained, if the working establishment, engaged in all the various departments, were placed under one head. After considerable discussion, the Justices arrived at the conclusion that although it might formerly have been desirable, before the introduction of the new drainage scheme, to maintain a separate establishment under the Health Officer, it could not, now that the old and new drainage arrangements were blended together, be wise to have two controlling heads. Indeed, the inconvenience of having two dapartments had, the Justices considered, been demonstrated by the friction which was occasionally apparent between the subordinate officers under the Engineer and Health Officer, respectively. As the Health Officer had declared his intention of applying for sick leave in the early part of 1875, it was decided that, with the close of 1874, the maintenance of a separate establishment under the Health Officer should cease, and, with the full concurrence of the Engineer, Mr. Bradford Leslie, the Drainage and Conservancy Departments were amalgamated with effect from the 1st January 1875, and placed under the Engineer. It is hoped that the re-organization of the departments, referred to above, will prove a success, notwithstanding the contrary apprehensions expressed by the Health Officer in his Report."

The arrangement proposed in 1874 was fully carried out in 1875. No less a personage than Mr. Bradford Leslie was then Engineer to the Municipality, and he after one year's experience thus wrote on the subject: "The Superintendents of the North and South Districts or Divisions and the Overseers of the Sub-divisions have now become thoroughly acquainted with the duties required of them, and the system has the great advantage of obviating the evils of divided responsibility, which caused some friction before the amalgamation of the Departments." And the present Commissioners have continued the altered system and have had no reason to be dissatisfied with its working. The reasons which led the Justices to make the change in 1874 hold equally good in 1882. The *Englishman*, which has lent its ear to the interested tales of a grievance-monger, has still the good sense to see that the revival of the Health-Officer on the old footing will do no good. Our contemporary says: "We would not now force them to employ the whole time of a highly paid Health Officer, for it is clear on the evidence that such an officer is not wanted." We entirely agree with the writer that by reviving the old appointment "we shall revert to the former state of high pay without improvement of work." If it be necessary to increase the subordinate staff for inspection, by all means do so. But do not again encumber the Corporation with the sinecure of an exclusive Health-Officer for the town. If road scraping is not properly looked after or the compounds of private houses require better supervision by the Municipality, let a few sub-overseers be appointed; their hands and feet will be more useful to the public than the eyes and nose of a full-paid Health-Officer, driving his buggy in the morning and lolling in his chair during the day.

THE KHAS TENANTRY OF GOVERNMENT.

THE Government is so anxious to ameliorate the condition of the ryots of private estates that it ought to turn its eyes to that of its own khas tenantry. Here is a tale which carries its own moral. We have received the facts from a petition to the Board of Revenue presented by some of the ryots of Chur Marchardearh in the district of Rajshye and bearing the signatures of 860 ryots. We give below the following abstract of the facts set forth in the petition:

"According to the petitioners this Chur was cleared of jungle and brought under cultivation by them and by their ancestors. In 1842 Messrs. Watson & Co., obtained a lease of certain villages to which the Chur itself was an accretion from the Lushkurpore Zemindari. This lease expired on the 1st January 1860. In the suit, which followed, and in which the Company and the Zemindars above-mentioned were the contending parties, it was decided that the Zemindars were entitled to khas possession of some 18180 bighas in one plot and some 9,000 bighas another plot in the same Chur. In 1868 the Chur was surveyed at the instance of the revenue authorities, the result of which was the ascertainment of the fact that the Chur contained 6507 bighas of land inclusive of the 27,000 bighas awarded to the Lushkurpore Zemindars by the decision of the Court as mentioned above. The Government having taken possession of the Chur after the survey leased it out in 1869 to Messrs. Watson & Co., at an annual jumma of Rs. 5371-1-0. This lease was renewed from time to time until the Bengali year 1287 or to the end of 10th April 1881. On the expiration of the lease to Messrs. Watson, the Collector having taken khas possession of the Chur realized rent direct from the petitioners and their fellow-ryots. Now Messrs. Watson and Co. have applied for a renewal of the lease to which the petitioners have raised strong objections.

The objections of the ryot-petitioners are thus briefly stated:

Messrs. Watson & Co. compel the ryots to grow indigo which are detrimental to the interests of the ryots. The lessees refuse to recognize the accrual of occupancy right of the petitioners. Large tracts of land are marked out at the end of the rains every year called Indigo lines, and all land belonging to the ryots falling within these lines has to be sown with indigo. These indigo lines are changed every year, and as the most valuable and fertile lands are selected for indigo the ryots are put to great expense and labour in order to adapt the rejected indigo lands to culture for the growth of other crops. The most serious difficulty under which the ryots labour is their ignorance in one year as to the crops they will be able to grow in their land the next year. In the case of sugar-cane this uncertainty is a great drawback.

Further:

Though the current rate of rent in the Chur is 4 annas per bigha the Factory exact one rupee on the pretext that the land is its *nijjote* or *khamar* land and has an occupancy right in the same. The petitioners quoting the following cases deny the right claimed by Messrs. Watson and Co. who are mere jardars:—

Jardine Skinner *vs.* Rani Surrut Sundari Debi; L. R S. I. A. 164, Savi *vs.* Punchanun Rai, 25 W. R. 503, Ramsaran Singh *vs.* Martin 25 W. R. 556. These cases dispose of the right of ijardars, as to that of Indigo planters, the case of Rai Kamol Dasi *vs.* Ladley, I. L. R. 4 Cal. 957, is considered as conclusive.

Again:

The denial of the occupancy right to the petitioners on the part of Messrs. Watson and their setting up a claim of their own to the same, gave rise to frequent disputes, which resulted in many instances in ruinous loss to the petitioners. Their crops when ripe for the sickle had been attached and kept unreaped under police surveillance. Only last year the Bhadoi crop of a large number of the petitioners having been attached were kept under police guard, the harvest not having been reaped in due time, the river rose and submerged the land, and the best part of the crop was irreparably lost. The last *Kalie* crop was similarly attached and kept under police guard. The petitioners were allowed to reap it, it is true, but it has been of no avail to them, for it is still in police custody. Not only the *Kalie* crop has been thus seized and kept from the growers, but the land even on which it was grown remains unploughed and unsown for other crops.

The criminal cases in which the petitioners are involved are to them the source of endless trouble and annoyance inasmuch as they entail upon them heavy expenses and the necessity of attending the courts from day to day for days together neglecting their usual avocations and the cultivation of their lands. On these and other grounds they pray that the estate may be held by Government in *khas* and a ryotwari settlement made with them.

The petitioners thus set forth the advantages of khas management:

Messrs. Watson & Co., paid a rent of Rs. 5371, but the gross collections made aggregate Rs. 20,000. The area let out to the firm in 1868 was 46,507 bighas, the accretions since made have enlarged it to the extent of 60,000 bighas. If a settlement be made direct with the ryots Government will obtain a rent equal to 4 or 5 times the amount it expects from Messrs. Watson & Co.

As the subject is *sub judice* we abstain from making comments.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

ALL INDIA will rejoice to learn that Mrs. Baring is pronounced out of danger. She is improving slowly but steadily. Further bulletins of her health will not be issued.

WE UNDERSTAND that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will leave for Kuch Behar on the 22nd instant and will return to the capital on the 6th March next.

WE ARE requested to mention that henceforth the rates of admission to the Calcutta Art Exhibition will be 2 ans., that on Thursdays the Exhibition will be open from 7 to 9 A. M., and then closed, but will be re-opened at 2 P. M., only for native ladies.

WE ARE exceedingly glad to learn that Pundit Eswar Chundra Vidyasagara proposes to establish a Law Class in connection with the Metropolitan Institution. He has made an application to the Senate for the affiliation of the proposed class. Now that the Government recognizes the principle of self-help in matters of education, we make no doubt that the University will be only too glad to comply with the application of our veteran educationist.

WE ARE glad to learn that the pleaders of the Calcutta Small Cause Court have carried the day. At a meeting of the Executive Council it has been decided by His Excellency the Viceroy in Council that the pleaders of the Court shall not be deprived of their present previleges in suits above Rs. 1,000. The procedure of the Court in suits above Rs. 1,000 may be also made summary.

NOTWITHSTANDING the *ad misericordiam* appeal of the *Englishman* the Lieutenant-Governor has not changed the Municipal Constitution of Cal-

cutta in connection with the small tinkering bill before the Bengal Council. The Bill was passed on Saturday last.

THE PIONEER has heard from England that Mr. Rivers Thompson is not likely to be appointed to the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, as generally rumoured, because he "once wrote a minute in opposition to the views accepted by the present Government on Affghan affairs." We confess we do not believe this statement. Our own information is that no one has yet been nominated, and that it is not usual to make an appointment of this kind till within two or three months of the approaching vacancy. Notwithstanding the *Pioneer's* information our belief is that Mr. Thompson will succeed to the Belvedere *musud* and we hope he will. He has decidedly the best claim to it, and public voice has already unanimously proclaimed itself in his favour. If the Secretary of State overlooks him, it wil be possibly on the ground that in matters of Indian administration the *vox populi* should never be listened to.

THE MOST conspicuous figure in the history of Bengal has ceased to exist. The Newab Nazim of Bengal has long become historic—even the title is now extinct. The following short notification in last Saturday's *Gazette of India* means more than meets the eye;

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General is pleased to confer upon Nawab Ali Kadar Sayad Hasan Ali Mirza the title of "Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad," and to direct that the said title shall, on his demise, descend to, and be held by, lineal heirs male, in perpetuity.

So even the titular symbol of Mahomedan ascendancy in Bengal is gone!

NOTWITHSTANDING the taunt of the *St. James' Gazette* the London *Daily News*, always the champion of the weak and helpless, has taken notice of the Indian Emigration Act. We give our contemporary's remarks below:

The natives of India who pay any attention to public questions are up in arms against the Assam Emigration Bill, which they describe as "a Slave Bill in disguise." This measure, which has not yet received the sanction of the highest authorities either in India or in England, has been framed in the interests of the tea planters of Assam; and, according to the *Hindoo Patriot*, while giving enormous powers to the employing class, it entirely fails to secure adequate protection to the coolies. Our contemporary shows, for example, that although under Lord Kimberley's Pacific Islanders Act of 1872 kidnapping in the South Seas is declared to be felony, and may be visited with any punishment short of death, yet under the Assam Bill, the same offence is only punishable with a fine not exceeding fifty rupees. The native journalist points out that although the Bill provides that a coolie must not be separated from any woman, child, aged or incapacitated relative, or other "dependant" who may accompany him, the Bill contains no compulsory provision for their accommodation on the plantation to which they are taken. Moreover, it is alleged that if a coolie is disabled by illness, the pittance allowed him in those circumstances is wholly insufficient for the support of his family; and it must be admitted that twopence a day, which appears to be the sum specified, is not much for the sick labourer's wife and children to live upon. It is further stated that if the coolie is assaulted by his employer he must not go off to the magistrate and ask for redress, but must lodge his complaint only through the man who committed the assault. We have not seen a copy of the Bill which is said to contain these extraordinary provisions; and after all that the Indian Government have said in condemnation of the treatment of Indian coolies in both British and French colonies, it seems incredible that they or their subordinates should even have put forward such proposals for legislative consideration. The attention of Parliament has been already called to the great mortality which exists among the coolies in Assam. This fact alone places the coolie system in that province on its trial; and unless there has been some grave misapprehension as to the nature and tendency of the proposed legislation to which the leading organ of the native community has directed attention, we feel sure that Lord Ripon will hesitate before allowing the Bill in its present form to pass into law.

The Bill, as our contemporary has by this time learnt, has passed into law with some slight alterations. Lord Ripon has, however, supplemented the Act by some elaborate and benevolent instructions for its administration, which, as we have already said, fully justify our criticisms. It is one thing to pass a law and another thing to seek to mitigate its rigours by executive orders.

APROPOS of the above we are glad to learn that the Aborigenes' Protection Society have resolved to take up the subject of the Emigration Act They have appointed a Committee for the purpose of considering the Act and moving the Secretary of State not to give his assent to it. Probably the subject will be brought forward in Parliament.

THE Law Membership of the Governor-General's Council seems to be going *a-begging*. Professor Bryce has refused it. It was offered to Mr. A. G. Macpheron, late a Judge of the Bengal High Court, but he too has declined it. It is now rumoured that choice lies between Mr. Justice Wilson of the Bengal High Court and Sir Charles Turner, Chief Justice of the Madras High Court. As the Law Membership carries no pension, we do not know whether it would be worth the while of either of these gentlemen to accept it. Mr. Cunningham, we are told, has no chance, because he is an eyesore of Mr. Stokes, and it is Mr. Stokes' principal, Sir Henry Sumner Maine, who has practically the appointment in his gift. If we were permitted to name any body, we would name Mr. Pugh M. P., who combines a high juridical lore with considerable Indian experience. His eminent qualifications are well known to the bench and the bar of Calcutta.

WITH reference to the remarks of the Commander-in-Chief on the Emigration Bill a correspondent says that it were much to be wished that His Excellency had informed the Council on what terms coolies are engaged for the Commissariat Department in Assam. He tells us that the Government coolies are paid Rs. 8 a month, *plus* rations, and are indentured for one year only. These are the terms on which coolies are taken by Government to Assam for its own service. To be consistent it should have insisted upon the same terms in the employment of coolies by planters. But the excuse is that the planters cannot afford to pay high wages to coolies!

WE ARE exceedingly glad to learn that His Excellency the Viceroy has recommended Mr. Lambert, the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, to the appointment of Superintendent of the Dacoity and Thuggee Department. It is true that this office hitherto belonged to the diplomatic service, but Mr. Lambert's services have been of an exceptional character. It is not perhaps generally known that Mr. Lambert has had much political work of a delicate kind under the direction of the Foreign Office. It was for this special work the late Mr. Wauchope was appointed Commissioner of Police after Lord Mayo's assassination. Mr. Lambert has, however, done both his police and political work so well that it was not deemed necessary to entertain a special officer for that work. Lord Ripon has accordingly rewarded him with the Companionship of the Indian Empire and the Thuggee appointment. Mr. Lambert's administration of the Calcutta Police has been so successful that his retirement from it will be a lose to the capital. We make no doubt that the Secretary of State will sanction the recommendation of the Viceroy.

WE HEAR that the Government of India has referred Mr. O'Donnell's case to the High Court for opinion as to the legality of the *Kyfiat* system of trial introduced by him. We are told that Mr. O'Donnell on hearing this telegraphed from Allahabad to the High Court to be heard in person. We do not know what answer the Court has given to his application. It is true that the matter will be disposed of by the High Court in the English Department, the rules of which do not permit the hearing of a case or matter in open court. Still we think it would have been better for its own sake, if the Court had made an exception in Mr. O'Donnell's favour.

OUR SUB is in the habit of saying, every person has a right to give any reason he likes, and no one is bound to give the right reason, the best reason, or all the reasons in a case. This doctrine must have somehow travelled to the Bengal Office and availed of, when it was said the object of Mr. Sharp in putting down the Bograh Sankirtan was to prevent the risk of a conflagration by a torch-light procession passing through a street near which there were thatched huts. Of course that was it, and nothing more—certainly nothing like an idea of noise disturbing the constitutional forty winks after dinner. He is a traitor and rebel who would suggest it. We feel sure Sir Ashley Eden did not write the letter, but we cannot help thinking that as a man of keen sense of humour he must have broken out into a loud guffaw when he read it. Mr. Secretary Cockerell must have enjoyed it too. It is so rich and ingenious! And yet the Government complain that the people have no faith in the sincerity of such declarations!

AS A practical man Sir Ashley Eden answered well the deputation of merchants, clergymen, missionaries and native gentlemen, which waited upon His Honor on Friday last on the Sunday Closing question. The memorialists stated "that they observed with regret and alarm the increase of intemperance among both Europeans and Natives in Calcutta." Sir Ashley Eden flooded them with facts and figures to shew how unfounded their assertion was. His Honor said:

Turning to these figures I find that in the Town of Calcutta during the year 1879, 583 natives were locked up by the Police for being drunk and incapable of taking care of themselves. In 1880, 467; and in 1881, 770, Complete figures for the past three years show that throughout the Town and Suburb of Calcutta, with a population of 5½ lakhs people about 9 natives were brought up on an average every day before the Magistrates for drunken and disorderly conduct in the streets. As the population of the Town is about 4,05,000, I must emphatically say that I cannot agree with the memorialists in considering that 770 established cases of drunkenness in a year or about 2 cases a day ought to cause any real "regret or alarm." We have not arrived at that condition of society when drunkenness and all the other vices have taken their departure from amongst us, and if I could only believe that these 770 cases adequately represented the amount of drunkenness in Calcutta during 1881, I might venture to claim for it the reputation of being the most sober city in the world. As to what is said about drinking amongst natives, my information leads me to believe that no doubt there may be an increase of drinking. But it is not amongst the class that frequents the liquor shops, it is amongst the middle classes who drink in their own houses, and whom therefore no regulations of Government can reach. It may be a matter for regret, that this should be so, but there is nothing to justify an expression of "alarm" and it has no reference to the subject of this memorial.

His Honor also shewed that there were strong evidences of thriftiness and temperance among the seamen frequenting this port. His Honor did not, however, altogether disappoint the deputation. He added that he will consider the question of partial closing.

His Honor suggested to the deputation the desirableness of establishing places of innocent amusement or recreation such as coffee houses. The common sense of the Lieutenant-Governor we must confess had the better of the amiable enthusiasm of the deputation. For our parts we are advocates of total abstinence, and any measure, which will reduce drinking, has our heartiest support.

THE SUPPLEMENT to the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 8th instant contains a batch of papers on the working of the outstill system. We must do Sir Ashley Eden the justice to say that he has the best of the argument, but we cannot at the same time deny that the testimony from all sides is that the evil of drunkenness is spreading in the country. It may be that this testimony is not corroborated by official figures. But the misfortune is that we cannot get necessary official figures for comparison. Under the sudder distillery system the quantities consumed were given, but under the outstill system this information is withheld, so how can the public know whether there has been an increase or decrease in consumption? We are all left in the dark. We believe the shop-keepers keep a register of quantities, and it is very desirable that excise officers should take these figures and submit them to the Board of Revenue for publication in its annual excise report. Unless this is done the public will not be enlightened on the subject. We observe that another point was

thoroughly sifted by His Honor, *viz.*, whether the habit of drinking has spread to school-boys. But the questions framed by the Director of Public Instruction we must confess overshot the mark. The questions circulated were as follows :

(1) Whether the practice of drinking to excess is at all common amongst the pupil class ; and, if so, how many pupils have been expelled or otherwise punished for drunkenness.

(2) If this practice does exist, whether it has sprung up within the last year or so only, and was unknown in former years, when the necessitates of life were as cheap and the people as prosperous as they were in 1880-81,

The question is not whether "the practice of drinking to *excess* is common," but whether the practice is at all prevalent among school-boys. No categorical answer has, however, been given on the last point. One fact cannot, however, be denied. Last year the Board of Revenue issued orders prohibiting the sale of liquor at Patna to school-boys under 16 years of age. Surely the Board would not have issued this interdiction, if it had not seen the necessity for it.

A CORRESPONDENT thus writes to the *Englishman* :

The ryots in Lower Bengal have been greatly excited by the proceedings of Collectors to enforce a tax on date juice. Save in one district in Eastern Bengal, date trees are not common. Generally a ryot has ten or a dozen trees round his homestead. The juice from these trees he boils into *gur* or molasses. *Gur* is the only sweetmeat which the poorer class of ryots have to give to their children. Some of them boil rice in date juice, and give it to their children, the same as Europeans give pudding.

The correspondent explains that under Section 62 the Excise Act "does not apply to the possession of *tari* when supplied or used for the manufacture of *gur* or molasses ;" again, that "the local Government may suspend the operation of all the provisions of the Act relating to *Tari* contained in the Act with respect to any district in which the consumption of *Tari in a fermented state* is inconsiderable, and thereupon *Tari* may be possessed and sold without license in any such district, notwithstanding any thing contained in this Act." But the Board, it is stated, has defined *Tari* to mean *fresh date juice.* We believe this definition was given by Mr. Buckland, but we dare say Mr. Maugles will correct it. It would be monstrous if fresh date juice should be taxed as an intoxicating excisable article.

WE CONGRATULATE the Indian Association on the success of the Public Meeting, which was held under its auspices at the Town Hall on Saturday last, with a view to offer thanks to the Viceroy for the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act, and to discuss the question of local self-Government. We hear that some very eloquent but rather violent speeches were delivered on the occasion. We reserve further remarks till a full report of the meeting is published.

A RUMOUR has been put into circulation by some malicious people to the effect that Babu Bunkim Chunder Chatterjea has been removed from the office of Assistant Secretary to the Bengal Government, because he gave out official secrets. Nothing could be a grosser misstatement than this. We are assured that Mr. Macaulay, the Secretary, was fully satisfied with his work, and complimented him, when he left the office, on his industry and on the help he had given him. He has also expressed a high opinion of the abilities of Babu Bunkim Chunder Chatterjea and Babu Rajendranath Miter. The policy of the change made is another question, and we have already condemned it.

THE TRADES' ASSOCIATION have addressed a very sensible letter to the Government of India on the subject of the import duties. They have culled cleverly the beauties of the present import tariff. Thus—

Carriages of all kinds are similarly exempt from duty, while the metal work, trimmings, glass, paint and varnish, and various other materials used in their construction, are dutiable.

Harness is admitted free, but the metal mountings, stuffing, &c., which enter so largely into its manufacture, are dutiable.

Manufactures of Leather are free, but a leather Portmanteau is pronounced dutiable by being fitted with a metal lock.

Spades are free, but Shovels are dutiable, the former article gaining exemption from duty as an agricultural implement.

Pressure gauges and Locomotive balances are free, but Steam Cocks and Oil cups are dutiable.

We have not space for more extracts. The Trades' Association, it must be admitted, have made out a very good case for the consideration of the tariff question.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—The Medical Profession of all countries now consider Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil as incomparably the most valuable remedy for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest. No remedy so rapidly restores the exhausted strength, improves the nutritive functions, stops emaciation, checks the perspiration, quiets the cough and expectoration, or produces a more marked and favourable influence on the local malady. Dr. Waudby, Physician to the Hereford Infirmary, writes:—"I can take Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil without any difficulties or dislike, and with as little inconvenience as water alone. Not only in my own case, but in many others I have seen, it has caused an improvement of chest symptoms and an increase of weight, so soon and so lastingly, as to be quite remarkable. I believe Dr. de Jongh's Oil to be the most valuable remedy we possess for chronic and constitutional diseases." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 77. Strand, London.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 18th February, 1882.

It appears that the depression which hitherto prevailed in our commercial markets has at last begun to abate. This improvement is probably due to decrease in the tightness of the money market.

Piece-Goods.—During the week there have been some transactions but within narrow limits and at reduced rates, chiefly in grey descriptions. Glasgow goods have also met with scanty sales at sacrificing rates to which the holders had to accede after holding their goods for a long time to secure covering rates.

Exports.—Nothing of importance has transpired in this market either in oil-seeds or wheat.

Rice.—There has been a fair amount of business done and about 80,000 bags of the following kinds found buyers at the rates quoted below:

Table Seeta	... ...	3-5 to 3-6
Table Gross	... ...	1-13 to 2-8
Ballam	... ...	1-10 to 1-15
Kheearee	... ...	1-6 to 1-9
Raree	... ...	1-7 to 1-9-6

Jute has this season proved particularly beneficial to some of the dealers and specially those who have reaped considerable profits by their early sales for forward delivery when the prices were ruling high—an occurrence like this in these days is a rare one.

MONETARY.

This market having shown some signs for easiness money has been obtained from some of the mercantile firms at easier rates than at the Bank of Bengal where 9 per cent. continued to be the minimum rate, but the Bank's last statement has disclosed its resources having improved and liabilities reduced, it is expected that the Directors at their next weekly meeting may reduce the rates.

GOVT. SECURITIES.

Have been very steady, but operations were confined to a limited extent at prices not subject to much fluctuations. They were as follows—

4 per cent.	... ...	101-6
4½ ,,	... ...	109.

JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

This market has been somewhat favorable for Jute Industries even at enhanced rates.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
Raja of Pittapur	13	4	0
Benares City Library	12	0	0
H. Coley Esq., Almora	13	10	0
G. B. Phatak Esq., Dharwar	6	10	0
D. S. Sathoye Esq., Sumbulpore	13	4	0
Thakoor Protap Ruder Singh Bahadoor, Rampore	13	4	0
Moulvi Fazul Kareem, Chittagong	13	4	0
Head Master Baluty School	13	4	0
Secretary, Mannargudi Library	3	4	0
S. Rigby Esq., Mozufferpore	6	8	0
S. Mul Singh, Rupar	6	10	0
Haridas Behary Das Esq., Wadhwan	13	4	0
Baboo Hurrocally Mookerjee, Cutwa	20	0	0
,, Sureshchunder Gangooly, Jessore	6	10	0
,, Ombicachurun Roy Chowdhry, Madaripur	13	4	0
,, Bhagbut Nunda, Khurda	20	0	0
Baboo Nobokissen Mookerjee, Tezpore	6	10	0
,, Mothoor Mohun Mookerjee, Dehra Doon	13	4	0
,, Basant Kumar Dass, Dinajpore	13	4	0
,, Ramrutton Mojoomdar, Bhangulpore	13	4	0
,, Hemchunder Barooah, Gowhatty	13	0	0
,, Khirodpersad Banerjee, Motiharee	3	0	0
,, Banymadub Gangooly, Bhownagur	6	10	0
,, Rajcoomar Sircar, Korachmariah	13	4	0
,, Woomachurun Mookerjee, Dholepore	13	4	0
,, Tincory Choudhry, Kanoo Junction	6	0	0
,, Joy Chunder Roy Choudhry, Simlagore	13	0	0
,, Bishnoo Chunder Chatterjee, Barrisal	20	0	0
,, Chand Mohun Moitra, Hazlabat	13	4	0
,, Nepal Chunder Bose, Buxar	5	0	0
,, Khetter Chunder Chatterjee, Gowhati	13	4	0
,, Bani Madub Roy, Banda	9	15	0
,, Denobundhoo Bhoomic, Nayagadu	5	0	0
,, Raj Mohun Das, Bhaugulpore	13	4	0
,, Gopal Chunder Mitter, Hamirpore	6	10	0
,, Bani Madub Bhuttacharjee, Allahabad	13	4	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*February* 15, 1882.

GENERAL.—Baboo Ishan Chunder Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Moorshedabad, is confirmed in the 6th Grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, with effect from the 1st January 1882.

Baboo Norendro Nath chowdhry, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy collector, Tipperah, is confirmed in the 7th Grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy collectors, with effect from the 1st January 1882, *vice* Baboo Ishan chunder Sen.

Baboo Shamadhub Roy, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is appointed to be temporarily a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy collector of the 7th Grade

Mr. F. W. R. cowley, District and Sessions Judge of Purneah, returned on the fore-noon of the 28th September 1881 from the leave granted to him under the orders of the 15th June 1881.

In supersession of the orders of the 4th instant, Mr. E. T. Lloyd, who has recently been appointed to be member of the Bengal civil Service, and who arrived at Calcutta on the 2nd instant, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and collector in the Dacca Division, and his posted to the Sudder Station of the district of Dacca.

Major W. L. Samuells, Assistant commissioner of Darjeeling, is transferred to Hazareebagh, and is appointed to have charge of the Giridi Division of that district, with effect from the 1st instant. This cancels the orders of the 13th January 1882, granting him leave for one month, under section 71, chapter V of the civil Leave Code.

Mr. H. H. Risley, Assistant commissioner, Hazareebagh, is allowed leave for twenty days, under section 71, chapter V of the civil Leave Code, with effect from the 13th instant.

Baboo Sheonundun Lal Roy, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy collector, Shahabad, is transferred to Patna, and is posted to the Sudder Station of that district.

Baboo Ashutosh Sircar, Officiating Deputy collector, on special duty, under the Public Works Department, Railway Branch, of this Government, is vested with the powers of a collector under Act X of 1870 in the district of Dinagepore.

The orders of the 21st September last, granting leave for one month to Baboo Bhugwan Chunder Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah, are cancelled

Mr. H. M. Tobin, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy collector, chumparun, is allowed furlough for four months, under section 49, Chapter V of the civil Leave code, with effect from the 5th April 1882.

Mr. A. J. R. Bainbridge, District and Sessions Judge of Moorshidabad, is allowed leave for fifteen days under sections 71 and 72-2 of the civil Leave code, with effect from the 20th instant, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Lieutenant W. H. Chase, Northern Bengal Volunteer Rifle Corps, is allowed leave for three months on private affairs, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it,

Mr. H. Beverley, Additional District and Sessions Judge, 24-Pergunnahs and Hooghly, is allowed furlough for one year, under section 49, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 9th April next, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. W. B. Oldham, Deputy commissioner, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for two months and nineteen nays, under section 71, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th March next, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Advertisements.

WANTED a Dewan for the Pakour Raj, on a salary of Rs. 100 per mensem with free quarters. None need apply who are not thoroughly versant in all the branches of zemindary affairs and law. Apply with testimonials to the undersigned.

L. N. PANDE,
Pakour.

WANTED two Surveyors on consolidated salaries of Rs. 75 per mensem, for about three to four months, to make surveys and assist in preparing Estimates for the Purneah District Roads.

None but natives need apply. No applications will be entertained unless certificates can be produced shewing practical knowledge and afficiency in Surveying, Levelling, Estimating and neatly plotting work.

Copies of certificates which will not be returned will be received up to the 28th February 1882, by the District Engineer, Purneah.

R. G. S. ROBERTS,
District Engineer.

WANTED

For the Road Cess Committee of Rajshahye a qualified Accountant salary Rs. 80 per mensem. None need apply who have not passed the necessary examination.

Preference will be given to men who have served as accountant in the Public Works Department.

Applications to be made on or before 28th February 1882 to

Rampore Bauleah, Rajshahye. } The Chairman, Road Cess Committee.

Notice.

Wanted a Sub-Overseer of village roads on a salary and allowance of Rs. 50 per month. None need apply who have not passed the Sub-Overseer's examination in the Public Works Department. Applications with copies of certificates should be sent to the undersigned on or before the 25th February 1882.

F. WYER,
Chairman Dt. R. C. C. Tipperah.

NEW TESTIMONIALS

ON THE EFFICACY OF THE MEDICINE OF

GRIMAULT AND CO.,

PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS.

PARIS: 8, RUE VIVIENNE, 8, PARIS.

DISEASES OF THE CHEST CURED.

—"I compliment you for your SYRUP OF HYPOPHOSPHITE OE LIME. I employ it daily amongst adults or children who are attacked *with diseases of the lungs and liver*. It outvies every other preparation of the day.

J. H. Lang, Medical Doctor,
Lake Kellambete, Zerang. Victoria."

GRIMAULT & CO.'S MATICO CAPSULES AND INJECTION.

Renowned Physicians prescribe GRIMAULT'S MATICO as the most active and at the same time the most inoffensive remedy in the treatment of ACUTE AND CHRONIC DISEASES, It has not, like COPAIBA, the inconvenience of giving NAUSEAS. The injection is used in recent, and the Capsules in the more chronic cases.

CONSUMPTION CURED

—I have published several well-confirmed cases of *Phthisis pulmonalis*, one of which with the complete destruction of one of the lungs, cured by the use of DUSART'S WINE AND SYRUP, together with raw meat as food.

DR. DELZENNE, of the Paris Faculty.

ASTHMA CURED.

We owe it to truth to state that all the Physicians who have prescribed to their patients, GRIMAULT & Co's INDIAN CIGARETTES are unanimous in telling them that their effect in *asthmas, chronic catarrhs*, and *inflamation of the mucous membrane of the nose, palate and bronchiæ* is most surprising.—*Vienna Medical Gazette* (Austria).

SICK HEADACHE AND NEURALGIA VANQUISHED.

"By taking one of *Grmault & Co.'s Guarana* Powders and remaining quiet when I have premonitory symptoms of *sick headache* by a beginning of pain, I have put it off for two months (something which had never occurred in my life before). DR. WOOD, MONTREAL.

Beware of counterfeits! The genuine preparations of GRIMAULT & CO., bear a Stamp with their Trade Mark and the Seal of the Government.

Beware of counterfeits! The genuine preparations of GRIMAULT & Co., bear a stamp with their Trade Mark and the seal of the French Government.

Agents—BATHGATE & CO., SMITH STANISTREET, & CO., BONNERJEE & Co., and NOBIN CHUNDER DAW & SONS calcutta; TREACHER & CO. Bombay; BARRIE & CO., MADON & CO., and NORTON & CO., Madras; PLOWER & CO., Lahore; PEAKE, ALLEN & CO., Lucknow; RIGGS & CO., Bangalore.

WANTED a B. A. Second Teacher for the Barisa H. C. English School, salary Rs. 40 per month. Apply to Shoshe Bhusun Banerjea, E. I. Railway Chief Paymaster's Office, Calcutta.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, the 21st of February 1882, at 3 P.M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To consider a proposal for purchasing and improving Jora Bagan *Bustee*, under the provisions of Section 283 A, of Act VI, B.C., of 1881.
2. To confirm the Proceedings of the Town Council at Meetings held on the 21st of January, 4th and 11th of February.
3. To confirm the proceedings of the Tramway Committee at a Meeting held on the 27th January.
4. Vital Statistics for the month of December 1881.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secy. to the Corporation.

ICE BLANKETS FOR SALE.

Specially made to suit the convenience of the Public in two sizes, A @ Rs. 1 B @ Rs. 1-4 each to be obtained at the ICE DEPOT, 2 Madge's Lane

---

Notice.

To be peremptorily sold pursuant to a Decree of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction, made in a suit No. 291 of 1881 [wherein Surrut Chunder Mittra is Plaintiff and Denonauth Mitter, Muttyloll Mitter and Chooneeloll Mitter are defendants] and dated 30th June 1881, by the Registrar of the said Court in his sale-room at the said Court House, on Saturday, the 18th day of March next, at the hour of 12 o'clock at noon the under-mentioned properties namely.—

Lot 1. All that upper-roomed brick-built messuage tenement or dwelling house with the piece or parcel of land or ground thereunto belonging and on part whereof the same is erected and built, containing by estimation one biggah and twelve cottahs more or less, situate at and being No. 25 Shampooker Street in Calcutta and butted and bounded in manner following, that is to say on the North by the Shampooker Street, on the East by the dwelling house of Gopaichunder Mitter, on the West partly by a lane and partly by the dwelling house of Harranchunder Dutt and on the South by the tenanted land of Obhoychurn Ghose in the tenancy of the Nepaulese Agent.

Lot 2. All that piece or parcel of tenanted land or ground containing by estimation one biggah and fifteen cottahs, be the same a little more or less with the unfinished brick building standing thereon, situate at and being No 47 Shampooker Street in Calcutta and butted and bounded in manner following, that is to say on the North by the dwelling house of Hurry Doss Babajee, on the East partly by the tenanted land of Sibchunder Bhuttacharjee, and partly by the house of Gopalchunder Chuckerbutty, on the West by the dwelling house of Gopeenauth Turkolunkar, and on the South by the said Shampooker Street.

Lot 3. All that upper-roomed brick-built massuage tenement or dwelling house with the piece or parcel of land or ground thereinto belonging and on part whereof the same is erected and built containing by estimation seven cottahs, be the same a little more or less situate at and being No. 10 Ramdhone Mitter's Lane, Shampooker in Calcutta, and which said premises are butted and bounded in manner following, that is to say on the North by the dwelling house of Nilcunt Bannerjee on the East by Ramdhone Mitter's Lane, on the West by the Garden of Gourychurn Chatterjee and on the South by the dwelling house of Gopalchunder Chuckerbutty.

Lot 4. All that piece or parcel of land or ground containing by estimation three cottahs, be the same a little more or less situate at and being No. 11 Ram Dhone Mitter's Lane, Shampooker in Calcutta and which said piece or parcel of land or ground is butted and bounded in manner following, that is to say on the North by the tenanted house of Gopalchunder Chuckerbutty, on the East by Ramdhone Mitter's Lane, on the West by the dwelling house of Parbutty Churn Chatterjee, and on the South by the dwelling house of the said Gopal Chunder Chuckerbutty, the several premises to be sold are described in a certain Deed of Conveyance dated the 28th day of August 1858 and made between Maharaj Apurbakristo Bahadoor, of the first part. John Cochrane of the second part, Nilmadhub Mitter, of the third part of the said Deno Nath Mitter of the fourth part and Thomas Robert Stoke of the fifth part as follows, namely:

All that upper-roomed brick built messuage tenement or dwelling house together with the piece or parcel of land or ground on part whereof the same is erected and built including a Tank containing by estimation one biggah and twelve chittacks, be the same a little more or less situate, lying and being at Shampooker in Sootanooty in the Town of Calcutta and butted and bounded in manner following, that is to say on the East by the houses and premises of Muddonmohun Dutt, Kistomohun Mitter, Gopeenauth Ghose and Prawnkisto Sen, on the West by the pathway or passage leading from Shampooker Street to the houses of Hurrochunder Ghose and others there on the North by the Shampooker Street and on the South by a Tank there belonging to the Estate of Kristomohun Bysack deceased, called and known by the name of Shampooker Tank.

All that piece or parcel of land or ground formerly three pieces, containing by estimation two Biggahs five cottahs and four chittacks, be the same a little more or less situate, lying and being at Shampooker aforesaid and butted and bounded in manner following, that is to say on the North by the houses of Huprochunder Paul, Nilacunt Bonnerjee, on the South by the Shampooker Street, on the East by the Taleparah Lane, and on the West by the house of Gopeenauth Turkolunker.

The abstract of title and conditions of sale may be seen at the Office of the Registrar of the High Court in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction, or at the Office of Baboo Mooralydhur Sen, Attorney, for the Plantiff No. 4 Hasting's Street any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

MORALLYDHUR SEN, Plaintiff's Attorney, High Court, Original Side, the 14th February 1882. } R. BELCHAMBERS, Registrar.

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

9, Esplanade Row, Calcutta.

IMPORTERS OF

Excelsior Horse or Hand Power Lawn Mowers.

8 inches	Rs. 40	18 inches	Rs. 110
10 „	„ 50	20 „	„ 125
12 „	„ 65	25 „ With shafts	
14 „	„ 80	and seat...	„ 300
16 „	„ 95	30 „ „ „ ...	„ 400

Grass Boxes if required.

For 14 and 16"	18"	20"	inch.
Rs. 8	10	12	each.

Garden Rollers.

DOUBLE CYLINDER.

18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32 inches
Rs. 50	60	70	80	90	110	150	200 each.

Galvanized Iron Wire Netting.

Mesh ½	⅝	1	1¼	1½	1⅝	2 inch.
Rs. 2	1 4	1	0-14	0-10	0-8	0-8 p. yd. 2ft. wide
3	1-14	1 8	1-4	0-15	0-12	0-12 „ 3 „ „

Border for Croquet Ground, As. 12 per yard.
4 Inches Galvanized Netting 3 feet wide, As. 14 per yard.

Garden Watering.

1½	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	20 Qts.
Rs.	2-8	3-8	4	4-8	5-4	6-8	6	6-8	8-12	10-8 Each.

Glenny Watering Pots.

2	3	4	6 Quarts
3	3-8	4	5 Each.

Edging Knives, Handled.

Rs. 3-0 each.

Transplanting Tools.

Rs. 3-12 each

Scythes.

Fitted with Sneads, Nebs, and Stone for Sharpening, Rs. 8-0
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